

Dr. Shro

The NATIONAL WOOL GROWER



Volume XXVII Number 5

MAY, 1937

Congress Discusses
Wool Research



Feeding Ewes For Milk
and Lamb Gains



Big Gates on Little
Hinges

Atlantic Coast Packers

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DENVER

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The National Wool Grower

Published Monthly at 509 McCormick Building, Salt Lake City, Utah,
by the National Wool Growers Association Co., Inc.

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Vol. XXVII—No. 5

May, 1937

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES—Payment of dues in the National Wool Growers Association includes a year's subscription to the National Wool Grower. Dues and subscriptions are received along with state association dues by the secretaries shown for the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Texas, Washington and Wyoming. To non-members in the United States and Canada \$1.50 per year; foreign, \$2.00 per year.

Entered as Second Class Matter, January, 1913, at the Post Office at Salt Lake City, Utah, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized August 23, 1918.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

In many sections of the West, this year's wool clip is from 3 to 5 per cent lighter in shrinkage than in 1936. This is greatly to the advantage of dealers who contracted clips on the basis of the usual rate of shrinkage. **Light Wool** And, likewise, it is a loss to the growers of these light clips who sold before the real shrinkage of their new clips could be known. This lighter shrinkage than was counted upon gives buyers an unexpected gain of around 3 cents per grease pound. As a result, a good many contracted clips have been offered or sold at Boston below the prices previously prevailing, thus pulling down, temporarily at least, the price levels for all who have not sold.

Which is still another angle of our polyglot plan of wool selling—for which the growers pay.

The President's proposal for reorganization of government departments calls for placing the Interstate Commerce Commission in the status of a bureau within a regular department. The plan includes creation of two new departments with Cabinet members—Conservation and Public Welfare. **I. C. C.**

Since its creation in 1887, the Interstate Commerce Commission has operated independently, the President having power only to nominate new members when vacancies occur or terms expire. In amending the Interstate Commerce Act, Congress has from time to time established policies in connection with transportation and the Commission has carried out such policies in respect to railroad rates, financial issues, safety methods, and several other important phases of railroad operation. The Commission's decisions are not subject to review by Congress, though they sometimes are taken to federal courts for determination as to their legality.

To subject the Interstate Commerce Commission to the whims and powers of a politically appointed member of the Cabinet certainly would inject political considerations into its decisions. Even its strongest critics have never charged that the Commission bases its acts upon any consideration but the facts and the law.

There are many independent commissions which could well be taken into departments for administration, or better yet, abolished. But the I.C.C. is too important a body, and its need of being able to act independently too great, to allow the slim chances of effecting economy to destroy its usefulness.

Little progress is being made by Congress in consideration of the reorganization plan which as submitted by the President called for creation of a new Department of Conservation and transfer of the Forest Service to such department along with the Division of **Reorganization** Grazing and the Reclamation and National Park Services. It is quite possible that the whole matter will bog down unless the new move toward economy

on Sheep and Wool Affairs

shall last long enough and go far enough to bring about a realignment of bureaus and elimination of duplicate efforts as a means of reducing governmental expenditures.

The most welcome news that has come out of Washington in many moons is found in reports that the Congress and the President really intend to cut down government expenditures and get the federal budget in balance. The fellow who spends "when he's got it" always has friends, but when economy

Economy

must be practiced, his popularity wanes. And the same is true of a government. One of the first things likely to be hit by the economy wave is the system of payments to farmers, though it is expected that the half billion dollars will be voted for distribution under the Soil Conservation Act for at least one more year. The 50 million dollar plan for purchasing farm lands for lease and final sale to present tenants has been singled out for reduction or defeat. The real test of determination to economize is to come in connection with the proposal to continue one and a half billion dollars for the Works Progress Administration.

A drop of over 50 cents in the lamb market on Monday, May 3, was unwelcome news for rangemen of Idaho, Washington and other states in which lambs are rapidly approaching readiness for shipment. Consigned Arizona spring lambs also took the cut. Most of the Californias have been purchased at home at prices that compare well with the recent low spot. Prices of western dressed carcasses at New York and other eastern points were unchanged and practically the same as since a slight drop on April 11.

From April 16 to 23 the Chicago quotation on good quality was \$13, with \$13.35 paid on April 19 for two cars of choice Colorados in the wool. New York quotations on carcasses did not advance during this period.

April receipts at seven northern markets were slightly below last year and about equal to the rate from December to March. At the same seven markets, receipts were down 12 per cent for the last week of April. These figures, however, do not include Fort Worth, at which market the heavy runs of Texas lambs of the 1936 crop set in in earnest. In the last two weeks of April, 200,000 head were received at Fort Worth. This was three times the number at the market for the same time of last year. These Texas lambs are of good quality this year and are going into retailers' hands readily. It is expected that the Texas run of old crop stuff may amount to as much as three quarters of a million head, and that it will be in before Idaho and Washington lambs start to move.

Lamb Affairs

Further Plan of Chicago Yards to Increase Charges

TARIFFS filed by the Union Stock Yards Company of Chicago include an increase of one cent per head in charges for yarding sheep. These tariffs have been under consideration and hearing by the Packers and Stockyards Administration since last August. It is impossible to say when a decision will be reached.

The company is now attempting to increase its income by other means and at the expense of shippers. This is sought to be done by taking the railroad facilities at the yards out of the jurisdiction of the Interstate Commerce Commission and putting them under the Packers and Stockyards Administration. Bills to accomplish this have been introduced in the United States Congress. Senator McGill of Kansas introduced Senate Bill 2129, and Congressman Luckey of Nebraska, House Bill 6181, for this purpose. These bills should be strongly opposed.

In 1934 the Interstate Commerce Commission decided that the proper charge for the railroads to pay the stock yards company for unloading livestock was \$1.25 for single-deck cars, and \$1.50 for double decks. Under the law, these charges are paid by the railroads that bring in the livestock and are included in the rates published to be paid by shippers.

The company has reopened that case before the I.C.C. as well as attempting to get legislation to take the railroad facilities at the yards away from the Commission's control. It appears to be the expectation that the Secretary of Agriculture would increase the amount paid the yards for unloading livestock to \$3 or \$4 per car.

Also, since the railroad properties produce separate revenues and are not allowed to be included with the investments to be appraised in determining the valuations upon which the company shall be entitled to collect earnings through yardage charges, if the present proposals are successful, shippers would have to pay enough more

to furnish earnings on the investment newly included.

The Interstate Commerce Act provides that freight rates paid by shippers shall include the expense of unloading and delivering livestock at destinations. And the Commission now has power to say how much the railroads shall pay the stockyard companies for that service. If that charge is raised and the jurisdiction taken away from the Interstate Commerce Commission, then the railroads would be in a strong position to claim and obtain a higher rate for hauling livestock to the various stock yards.

The National Wool Growers Association is vigorously opposing these proposals of the Union Stock Yards of Chicago.

Duty-Free Wools

ON page 18 of the April issue of the Wool Grower it was stated that inquiry was being made through the Bureau of Customs in respect to what seemed to be large duty-free imports for the manufacture of "knit or felt boots or heavy fulled lumbermen's socks." The law of 1930 provided for free admission of wools used for such purposes if of the carpet class or "similar wools without Merino or English blood; all other wools of whatever blood or origin not finer than 40's," whenever used for carpets, press cloth, felt boots or lumbermen's socks.

The replies received from the Bureau of Customs and the Bureau of the Census show that not all of the four million pounds referred to was necessarily imported for making felt boots and lumbermen's socks. It appears that these imports also included wools not finer than 40's and not included in the types especially designated in the law as carpet wools. Reports do not show just how much of these wools were used for carpets or for the other permitted uses under the free provisions. It is probable that most of them actually went into carpets.

There is no ground for supposing that the requirements of the law are being defeated or that any such wools are escaping the payment of the proper duty.

"Favored-Nation" Plan Applicable to Wool

THE Wool Grower recently inquired of the State Department as to what might happen to wool in the event of there being a reciprocal trade agreement with Great Britain. Although no official negotiations for a trade agreement have been opened with that country, it is believed that preparations are being made for readjustment of tariffs with Great Britain as soon as that country has straightened out some trade matters with other countries of the Empire, arising from the Ottawa agreement.

Recently, the Wool Grower has had some confirmation of the idea referred to earlier in these columns, that there was a hitch at the Buenos Aires conference over peace treaties and that the Argentine Sanitary Convention is in suspension along with the trade agreement that was expected to follow ratification of that instrument and admission to American markets of meats from "disease free zones."

The inquiry addressed to the State Department was upon the question of Great Britain's being able to reexport Argentine wools to this country, in the event she had a trade agreement with the United States and the Argentine did not.

Mr. Hawkins' reply shows that such could be done. Also, the favored-nation arrangement would permit any country to export wools here at such lower rates as might be granted, under a trade agreement, to any individual country, and regardless of whether such other country or countries had made any concessions to the United States.

It appears that Australia could not take advantage of the terms of any such agreement by shipping directly or indirectly (via London). This, because of the exclusion of Australia from tariff changes as a result of her treatment of American exports of fruit and lumber.

The full reply of the State Department reads:

Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of April 6, 1937, in which you inquire whether, if the United States should reduce the duty on wool in a trade agreement with Great Britain, the reduction in duty would apply to wool imported from Argentina or from British countries by Great Britain and thereafter reexported to the United States.

You doubtless are aware that as a general rule the concessions granted by this Government in a trade agreement with any country relate only to products of which that country is the principal or an important source of supply of the imported products concerned. Concessions granted by the United States in a trade agreement with any country are extended, in conformity with the unconditional most-favored-nation principle and the express provisions of the Trade Agreements Act, to all countries which do not discriminate against our commerce. At present the only countries to

which the trade-agreement concessions of the United States are not extended are Germany and Australia. Therefore, so long as the existing situation remains unchanged in any important particular, a reduction of duty on wool in any trade agreement would be extended to similar wool imported directly or indirectly from all countries you have named, except Australia.

As regards products of Australia reexported to the United States from the United Kingdom or from any other country, your attention is called to the regulations for customs treatment of Australian products contained in Treasury Decision No. 48405, issued by the Commissioner of Customs, to the effect that "the proclaimed duties provided for in trade agreements will not be applicable to products of Australia imported directly or indirectly."

Very truly yours,

For the Secretary of State:

Harry C. Hawkins,

Chief, Division of Trade Agreements.

The Western Range Survey

ONE hundred fifty experts and officials from 17 states and Washington, D. C., were in session at Salt Lake from April 21 to 24 for consideration of methods of the survey that is to be made of all grazing lands in the area from North Dakota down to Texas and all states west thereof.

Nothing was said of Senate Document 199, though it appears that that publication was the forerunner of a concerted plan for protection or improvement of all private and publicly owned grazing lands.

The immediate urge comes from the provisions of the Soil Conservation Act of 1936. Under this act, owners of 58 million acres of grazing land made application last fall for benefit payments for adoption of approved practices. At that time the Forest Service was selected to make surveys and appraisals of all owned grazing lands. Such reports were necessary as a basis for determining what changed practices should be recognized for benefit payments. The Agricultural Adjustment Administration regulations placed limits upon payments that might be made. These limits were set at so much per head of the proper livestock carrying capacity of the lands involved in each case.

With that much of a basis, there now has evolved the plan of complete mapping of all private and public grazing lands in the 17 states. A confusing situation exists in the multiplicity of government agencies at work on the same problem and often in the same counties. Separate bureaus within the Department of Agriculture dealing with these lands are:

Agricultural Adjustment Administration

Soil Conservation Service

Resettlement Administration

Forest Service

Office of Experiment Stations

Representatives of these agencies attended the conference in addition to others from the Division of Grazing and the Indian Service.

It is expected that around 100 million additional acres will need to be reported upon this year. Also, there have been serious differences in reports made in 1936 by the various agencies. In estimates of grazing capacity on wholly similar lands, reports have varied by as much as 500 per cent. Different standards of measurement and men of varying background and training were employed last year. It was realized that greater uniformity

in methods must be brought about. The four days and 150 men were occupied in reaching such agreement for the seven agencies, and apparently a good job was done.

No stockmen were present. While a few states have based reports of carrying capacity of range lands, in part, upon information obtained from owners or users of the lands in question, the common plan is to derive such estimates by measuring density of forage cover, species of forage present, and palatability of the plants.

Officials of the state agricultural experiment stations are working on the survey, as well as extension workers, economists, and other members of the staff of the agricultural colleges.

There was no discussion of administrative consolidation. That could not have been taken up by representatives of the seven governmental agencies and the 17 state institutions. The discussions were wholly in regard to correlation and coordination of the methods and activities of each interest.

In accordance with the plan finally adopted by the conference, the various agencies will proceed to map the grazing lands under their respective jurisdictions by counties. The maps are to show (1) all crop lands, (2) all grazing lands, (3) fences for all grazing lands, (4) density of forage cover, (5) types of forage plants, (6) ownership of lands, (7) palatability of forage under supposed conditions of normal cover, (8) present stocking of lands as shown by census reports, etc., and (9) the proper rate of stocking the lands.

Such maps will be useful to the county control committees, not only to determine maximum payments to individual land owners, but also in determining the areas in which various styles of improved practices should be recognized for payments. In some cases reseeding may be advisable; in others, deferred grazing. Or it may be found wise to recognize rodent control, water development, additional fencing, or still other methods of improvement.

The Agricultural Adjustment Administration is to use and finance the em-

SHEEPMEN'S CALENDAR

California Ram Sale, Sacramento, Calif.—May 27-28, 1937.
 First Annual Intermountain Junior Fat Stock Show, North Salt Lake, Utah—June 8-10, 1937.
 Idaho Ram Sale, Filer, Idaho—August 11, 1937.
 National Ram Sale, Salt Lake City, Utah—August 24-25, 1937.
 American National Live Stock Convention, Cheyenne, Wyoming—January 12-14, 1938.

ployment of Forest Service employees in connection with the survey of range lands in which it is interested, which includes the bulk of the private lands in North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas.

The whole undertaking is being relaunched and coordinated in the expectation of its being a permanent project. Even if benefit payments should be discontinued, the methods of research now being agreed upon and application of findings in practice should continue for voluntary acceptance, if not under some other form of government action or control. It is possible that granting of future permits to graze upon public lands may be made contingent upon the stockmen's handling of their private lands in compliance with recognized standards now being developed.

It appeared to be the consensus of opinion among the experts at the conference that the goal to be achieved is the restoration of the original, primitive ground cover or virgin conditions of plant growth and the present control of the grazing lands to bring about that condition.

Except for the work of the Grazing Division of the Forest Service and some spasmodic efforts by a few states, the present Western Range Survey represents the first recognition by governmental bureaus of the importance of the grazing lands which produce most of the agricultural income of at least one half the area of the United States. It is apparent that from now on owners of range lands will have no grounds for complaint of neglect by federal and state research and administrative departments.

Priority Rules for Taylor Grazing Districts

RESTORATION, by special permission of the Secretary of the Interior, of two-year priority rules in Colorado Grazing Districts 3, 4 and 6 was reported in the April issue of the Wool Grower. That action required applicants for licenses for the grazing season 1937-38 to show two years' consecutive use of the range any time between 1929 and 1934. That ruling has now been extended to Colorado District No. 1.

A similar but more exclusive special ruling for Idaho District No. 1 was issued on April 16. This last rule requires that first consideration in granting licenses is to be given to applicants having dependent commensurate property that was used in connection with the public range for "two full consecutive seasons immediately preceding passage of the Taylor Act" (1934). An applicant who can show two years' consecutive use since 1929 may be admitted on showing that failure to use the range in 1932-33 and 1933-34 was "due to causes beyond his control."

Government Land Purchases

A WASHINGTON writer reports that purchases of land to date by the Resettlement Administration total 13 million acres costing 105 million dollars. Outstanding options cover an additional 10 million acres to cost 65 million dollars.

These look like rather good prices for the classes of land which it was expected would be taken over by resettlement. Of course, some of the lands are homesteads which never should have been taken up, the residents on which were in distress, if not already on relief. Such lands are likely to continue under government control and operation indefinitely. Practically all of them will need to be devoted to grazing use.

It is understood that some of the larger areas of grazing lands that have been purchased for Indians have been

paid for from resettlement appropriations. In some cases, the land purchases comprise acreage for new homes for the rehabilitation of families taken away from the poorer lands.

Undoubtedly some of these resettlement lands must be offered to stockmen, thus bringing into the grazing picture a third powerful bureau to make its own terms, rules, and regulations.

The Resettlement Administration goes much further in its "program of helping low-income farm families to regain their economic independence." Loans totaling over six million dollars have been made to 7291 rehabilitated families in Arizona, California, Utah and Nevada.

Class B Stock in Production Credit Associations

THE following amended rule of the Farm Credit Administration was issued on March 23, in respect to participation in assets by holders of class B stock of production credit associations:

In case an association is liquidated, voluntarily or otherwise, while an impairment exists in the par value of any of its outstanding class B stock, its respective class B stockholders shall be entitled to participate in the net assets available for distribution among class B stockholders, to the extent only of the fair book value(s) of their respective shares at the time of such distribution. In the determination of such fair book value(s), the basis shall be the fair book values(s) last previously established by the board of directors which was (were) followed by the issuance of new shares of class B stock at par. If, upon liquidation, the amount of the net assets available for distribution among class B stockholders is found to be less than the aggregate of such basic fair book values, the resulting deficiency shall be treated as an impairment (or further impairment) of such basic fair book value(s). If upon liquidation, the amount of the net assets available for distribution among class B stockholders is found to be greater than the aggregate of such basic fair book values, the resulting surplus shall be applicable, first, to the elimination (restoration) of any impairments reflected in such basic fair book value(s) and, second, to increasing the fair book value of all shares of class A and class B stock outstanding to an equal value per share above par.

S. M. GARWOOD,
 Production Credit Commissioner.

Congress Discusses

WOOL RESEARCH



Congressmen Greever of Wyoming (top left), South of Texas (top right) and Crawford of Michigan (right) work for larger appropriations for wool research.

THE excerpts printed below are taken from the debate of April 23 in the House of Representatives on the Agricultural Appropriation Bill.

Congressmen Greever of Wyoming, South of Texas, and Crawford of Michigan led a successful attempt to secure larger appropriations for wool research work to be conducted by the Department of Agriculture. This proposed project was worked out by J. B. Wilson of Wyoming and the Secretary of the National Wool Growers Association with the officials of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and the Congressmen named.

For several years the only money available to the Department of Agriculture for studying wool, outside of some meager experiments in sheep production, has consisted of allotments from the old Excess War Profits Fund accruing from government activities in handling the 1918 clip.

At the close of the War, it was found that a number of dealers had profits on wool above what they were entitled to in the amount of \$750,000. Of this, \$505,000 was returned to the growers to whom it belonged, but there

remained a balance of \$245,000 that could not be returned. Congress authorized the expenditure of this money by the Department of Agriculture in the interest of the wool growing industry. This expenditure has been going on at the rate of \$26,000 a year, although the value of the returns to wool growers has been very doubtful.

At the same time, annual appropriations for work along similar lines for cotton amount to \$1,754,000 annually. As the debate shows, it was argued forcefully by the three spokesmen for the wool industry that the federal government was not performing its proper duty to the wool industry.

There were 71 members on the floor of the House at the time this item came up, and the vote in favor of the motion for increased funds for wool work was 62 ayes and 9 noes. The matter is now before the Senate, but not much doubt is entertained as to the willingness of the senators to at least concur in the action of the House.

The first activity recommended to the Department of Agriculture in connection with the new wool program is

the standardization of a method for determining the shrinkage of clips. It is proposed, through the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, finally to establish a laboratory at which samples of several bags or smaller amounts from individual clips can be scoured under standardized conditions. Such service would be available to any grower applying for it, and also to wool salesmen or manufacturers who might desire it. The service rendered to growers would put them in a much better position than at present to figure the whole value of their wool, since shrinkage varies greatly from year to year, and is much more important even than grade in determining the value of a clip.

It frequently happens that mill buyers will refuse to buy a clip even on its true shrinkage when it is notably lighter than the general run of clips of similar grade and other characteristics. Because of this, producers of better clips frequently fail to obtain anywhere near full value. It will not be difficult to establish standard methods of scouring and of conditioning for weighing before and after scouring in a way that such exceptional clips, or any others, can be tested to show the proper clean value. As a result of this project, it should also become possible for the grower so desiring to place his wool at the markets subject to his own order and to have its true shrinkage determined, after which he could properly price it for sale on his account or through his salesman at the market.

The interesting part of the debate of April 23 follows:

Mr. SOUTH. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. South: Page 85, line 2, strike out "\$26,652" and insert in lieu thereof "\$50,000."

Mr. SOUTH. Mr. Chairman, I shall discuss rather briefly this amendment, which is somewhat unusual. May I call the attention of the Members to the fact that the \$26,652 provided in the bill comes from money which was recaptured as a result of excess profits made in handling the 1918 wool clip. If you do not understand that, I might just as well not talk any further. I am asking for the amount carried in the bill to be doubled. It is not coming out of the regular funds of the Government, but out of funds which were recaptured as a result of excess profits made in handling the 1918 wool clip. If you will read the language, you will find it is to be paid out of money "which the Secretary of Agriculture finds it impracticable to distribute among wool growers." Therefore I am asking that the wool people of this country be given their own money, which the Secretary of Agriculture has been unable to redistribute for the purpose of making a careful and intelligent study of the wool business.

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics has been using this money for several years, beginning in 1929, when they used the entire \$50,000. They continued this amount for several years, until in 1933, the figure dropped to \$39,000. In 1934 it was \$30,000 and 1935, \$25,000. Three years ago they adopted \$26,652. Why? Because this was one-third of the total amount left in the special fund.

This money is needed for the purpose of sending into the wool sections men who know something about the shearing, grading, and shrinkage of wool in order that the wool people may more intelligently market their product.

The cotton people will receive approximately \$1,754,000, not out of their own money, but out of the Federal Treasury, for practically the same purpose. The dairy people will receive \$96,000, not out of their own money, but out of the Federal Treasury, for practically the same purpose.

I have talked with the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. They have a man in Texas now, and also a man in Arizona studying this proposition on the scene of action and rendering valuable service to the sheepmen by assisting in shearing, sacking, tying, grading, and so forth.

If granted this additional money they can carry out this research work, and the results of the work will be worth millions of dollars to the wool growers. I call attention to the fact that the woolman, isolated and individualistic as he is, has asked for less help from the Federal Government probably than any other class of people. Paul Greever represents the great State of Wyoming, the second largest wool-producing State in the Union. I represent over 30,000 square miles in Texas, the greatest wool-producing state. What does this mean, granting that we are average members? It means you have vast areas there represented by only a few men in Congress, with no high-powered lobbyists, nobody to come here representing militant minority groups and urge special legislation. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, we are confronted with the unusual situation that the wool people cannot get their own money for the purpose of doing the very thing that has been done for other industries with the taxpayers' money.

I may say further, Mr. Chairman, without any reflection on a single member of this subcommittee, that there is not a man on that committee who has taken occasion to thoroughly inform himself as to the merits of my contention. It is literally impossible for the committee to examine each item in detail, and, as already pointed out, the facts in connection with this item are somewhat unusual. Following the World War the Federal Government collected or recaptured \$750,000 from wool dealers who had failed to comply with Government regulations in handling the 1918 wool clip, which had practically been commandeered by the Government as a war measure. All except \$245,000 of this amount was distributed among the producers. Since no proper claim was filed for this amount, an act was passed in 1928 providing that the Department of Agriculture should use this money, not to exceed \$50,000 in any one year, through the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, in acquiring and disseminating information helpful in the handling and marketing of wool.

I should like to call your attention to the fact that the wool grower is at a great disadvantage in offering his wool for sale unless he knows something about grading, shrinkage, and so forth. Up to this time uniform quality standards have not been established in the marking of wool to anything like the extent to which they have been made in the marketing of many other leading farm products. Wool growers and their representatives are urging a broad and research program looking to the development of a reliable basis for determining shrinkage. This necessarily involves a great amount of work, both in the field and in the laboratory. The Bureau of Agricultural Economics is thoroughly equipped to do this valuable work and will do so if and when sufficient funds are provided. [Applause.]

Mr. CANNON of Missouri. The original amount collected, Mr. Chairman, was \$750,000. Of this amount, \$505,000 was returned immediately to the growers who had paid it into the Treasury, but there was \$245,000 out of the \$750,000 that could not be returned, because it could not be traced. The Government, in order to return money to the industry which had contributed it, began making an annual appropriation of about \$26,000 for this purpose. Up to the present time we have distributed \$192,000 in annual payments, and we propose, in continuation of this program, to distribute this year, under the recommendation of the Budget, a further sum of \$26,000. If the gentleman's amendment prevails and we give them \$50,000, the activity would have to be discontinued after this year, and the Department feels that this money would be better expended and the service performed better by distributing it in small annual payments, making it a continuous service instead of using it all in one year and discontinuing it thereafter.

Mr. SOUTH. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. CANNON of Missouri. I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. SOUTH. Is it not a fact that there was appropriated \$50,000 for 1929, 1930, 1931, and 1932, and they arrived at this sum of \$26,652 three years ago by the simple process of dividing the amount left by three; and is it not a further fact that the wool growers are just as much entitled to money out of the Federal Treasury as the producers of cotton, tobacco, dairy products, or any other industry; and therefore the statement the gentleman makes that after this sum has been exhausted the industry will be neglected, certainly, is not very plausible?

Mr. CANNON of Missouri. The wool growers are entitled to any money out of the Public Treasury which could be advantageously expended in their behalf, and every other industry in the country is entitled to the same privilege, but we have to take into consideration this afternoon the relative advantage or benefit to be secured by such an appropriation and, judging this appropriation by that standard, the Department of Agriculture and the Bureau of the Budget have decided that this is the best way to expend it and, following the recommendation of the Department and the recommendation of the Budget, the committee is recommending an appropriation of \$26,000, holding the remainder of the sum for future disbursement.

Mr. SOUTH. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield once more?

Mr. CANNON of Missouri. Yes.

Mr. SOUTH. Can the gentleman name any other industry that has asked in this bill for its own money? In other words, this is money that belongs to the wool people who cannot be located; and is there any other industry that the gentleman can call to mind that has come before his committee asking for a dollar of its own money for a similar purpose although the bill carries nearly \$1,000,000,000, and the gentleman will recall that I did appear before his committee and made a similar statement to this.

Mr. CANNON of Missouri. This industry is asking for its own money, and the Government is returning it, but, according to the report of the Department, when the money is exhausted, the advantage to the industry will not be sufficient to warrant the Government in continuing the appropriation out of the Treasury.

Mr. GREEVER. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike out the last word and ask unanimous consent to revise and extend my remarks.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wyoming?

There was no objection.

Mr. CANNON of Missouri. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that all debate on this paragraph and all amendments thereto close in 15 minutes.

The CHAIRMAN. Is here objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

Mr. GREEVER. Mr. Chairman, as was pointed out so well by the gentleman from Texas [Mr. South], for several years the work of wool marketing under the Bureau of Agricultural Economics has been carried on under the recapture of profits from the wool clip of 1918. Therefore, all of the amount of money that has been expended for this purpose has been expended without any additional expense to the Treasury of the United States. I wish to briefly outline the necessity for this increase of appropriation. I think the Bureau of Agricultural Economics will freely admit that they have not been able to do the work which they should do with the amount of this appropriation. It is vitally necessary to the wool growers of all of the states, because of the fact that the buyer, equipped with knowledge of shrinkage, goes out to the grower in the field and buys wool on the basis of the Boston price of wool. The amount of shrinkage determines the price which is paid for the wool. The buyer knows all about wool shrinkage. The seller knows practically nothing about it, because there is no agency at the present time carrying on scientific investigations to make knowledge available to the seller as to the shrinkage he may expect from his wool.

For instance, if at the present time wool is selling on the Boston market for about \$1 per pound clean price, it should sell for around 32 cents in Wyoming, based upon a 65 per cent or 66 per cent shrinkage. The difference in the value between wool shrinking 60 per cent and 75 per cent, based upon one dollar clean wool in Boston, is 15 cents per pound. Expressed another way, every difference of 1 per cent in shrinkage on wool one dollar clean in Boston means 1 cent per pound in the grease. Most of the growers are somewhat familiar with the grade of their wool, but very few of the growers that I know know anything about the shrinkage of their wool, which, after all, is a determining factor in fixing the price. The buyers who purchase the wool from the growers are experts in estimating shrinkage. The grower knows nothing about shrinkage and cannot secure correct information regarding his clip from any authentic source now available.

I have consulted with Dr. Black and with Mr. Kitchen, of this Bureau; and with Mr. J. B. Wilson, secretary of the Wyoming Wool Growers' Association; and Mr. F. R. Marshall, secretary of the National Wool Growers' Association, and have been glad to work shoulder to shoulder with the able gentleman from Texas [Mr. South], who is deeply interested in this problem, and who offered this amendment this afternoon, together with many other Representatives of wool growing states, including the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. Crawford], and others. If this amendment prevails, the additional appropriation will be used for the purpose of having men go to the mills, select samples, and have them scoured at the laboratory in Washington, and compare the results with the results obtained from the actual scouring of large clips of wool by mills. Heretofore some of the agricultural colleges in the West, as well as the department in Washington, have scoured small samples of wool, but they have no way of knowing whether the shrinkage they obtained was correct when compared with commercial scouring methods used in actual manufacturing operations, because the results of scouring small samples have never heretofore been checked as is now proposed to be done.

I hope very much that this appropriation may be increased approximately \$24,000 for this year, and that the amendment of the gentleman from Texas [Mr. South] will prevail in order that work of value may be done along this important line. There is no industry that is more important to my state, and to many other states of the Union than is wool growing.

Mr. SOUTH. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GREEVER. Yes.

Mr. SOUTH. Is it not a fact that the law of 1928 provided that not to exceed \$50,000 per year should be used out of this fund and that there is now slightly more than \$50,000, so that if \$50,000 is appropriated, that amount of money is now in that fund and can be used for that purpose, and will practically be exhausted?

Mr. GREEVER. That is my understanding.

Mr. SOUTH. And does the gentleman know of any reason why wool should not then have the same claim upon the government as all other industries that are now faring so well at the hands of the government.

Mr. GREEVER. I certainly see no reason why wool should not receive the same treatment as any of the other commodities. In this very bill, under the Cotton Standards Act, there is a provision for more than \$500,000 appropriation this year. The total value of the sheep industry to this country this year, including wool and lambs, will be approximately \$350,000,000.

Mr. SOUTH. Is it not a fact that this bill provides \$270,000 for tobacco inspection?

Mr. GREEVER. It does.

Mr. SOUTH. And so far as the gentleman knows none of that belongs to the tobacco growers.

Mr. GREEVER. No.

Mr. SOUTH. Whereas this money belongs to the sheepmen of the country.

(Continued on page 32)

Regulations for Taylor Grazing Districts

ON February 26, the regulations which appear below were officially promulgated by the joint action of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Acting Secretary of the Interior.

The regulations relate to hunting, fishing, and use of firearms upon the lands of grazing districts; also, to use of fires, interference with game officials, permits for grazing in game ranges or refuges, and cutting of timber.

The Chief of the United States Biological Survey is given broad powers to determine what animals or birds may be taken. Permits for carrying of firearms must be secured from local grazing officials.

The official text of these regulations is as follows:

Regulation 1. Protection of Wildlife

It is not permitted to hunt, trap, catch, disturb, or kill, or attempt to hunt, trap, catch, disturb, or kill any wild bird or other animal, or to take or molest the nests or eggs of such birds, on any such game ranges, or wildlife refuges, except when authorized by permit issued by or under the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture: *Provided*, That duly authorized grazing permittees and employees of the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior engaged in the control of predatory animals and rodents may trap or otherwise take such rodents, predatory animals, or predacious birds when in the opinion of the Chief, Bureau of Biological Survey, control measures are necessary to reduce the numbers of such animals or birds in order to safeguard the perpetuation of other species of wildlife, to protect livestock, or to conserve grazing resources, or to retard soil erosion.

Regulation 2. Acts Not Permitted on Game Ranges, or Wildlife Refuges

The following acts are not permitted on lands of the United States within such game ranges, or wildlife refuges:

a. Setting on fire, or causing to be set on fire, any timber, brush, or grass, except as authorized by the resident officer in charge of such area.

b. Building a camp fire in leaves, rotten wood, or other places where it is likely to spread; against large or hollow logs or stumps where it is difficult to extinguish it completely; or in any other dangerous place, or during windy weather without confining it to holes or cleared spaces from which all vegetation or other inflammable material has been removed.

c. Leaving a camp fire unattended or not completely extinguished.

d. Disturbing, molesting, or interfering, by intimidation, threat, assault, or otherwise, with any person engaged in the management of wildlife or livestock on such ranges, or refuges, or the prevention of trespass thereon.

e. Unless authorized by permit from the resident officer in charge, the carrying of a firearm, except by authorized Federal or State officers.

f. Throwing or placing a burning cigarette, match, pipe heel, firecracker, or any ignited substance in any place where it may start a fire; or discharging any kind of fireworks on any part of such ranges, or refuges.

g. The destruction, injury, defacement, removal, or disturbance in any manner, of any building, notice, sign, signboard, equipment, fence, post, road, trail, dike, dike embankment, dam, bridge, or other structure, or of any other public property of any kind on such ranges, or refuges.

h. Entering, occupying, or using, without permission from the officer in charge, any building of the United States on such areas used for administration purposes by the Division of Grazing, of the Department of the Interior, or by the Bureau of Biological Survey, of the Department of Agriculture, except in case of emergency to prevent human suffering.

i. The entering or being upon such land with intent to destroy, molest, disturb, or injure property used, or acquired for use, by the United States, in the administration of such areas.

j. The dumping of garbage, or other refuse or debris, or the draining or dumping of oil, acids or poisons in, or otherwise polluting any waters, waterholes, or streams within any such ranges, or refuges.

Regulation 3. Grazing

No cattle, sheep, horses, or other livestock are permitted to graze on the public lands within the exterior boundaries of such game ranges, or refuges, except under permit of the Secretary of the Interior and in accordance with such conditions as he may prescribe therein, and no grazing is permitted on lands within the exterior boundaries of such game ranges, or refuges, which have been or which hereafter may be acquired by the United States for use of the Department of Agriculture for the conservation of migratory birds and other wildlife, except under permit of the Secretary of Agriculture and in accordance with such conditions as he may prescribe therein.

Regulation 6. Removal of Surplus Animals

Whenever it shall appear after investiga-

tion that the number of any species of game animal on any such range, or refuge, shall have increased beyond the numbers specified in the Executive order establishing the particular range, it shall be the duty of the Chief, Bureau of Biological Survey, Department of Agriculture, and the Director, Division of Grazing, Department of the Interior, jointly to determine the number of surplus animals it is desirable to remove from such range, or refuge, and upon such determination such surplus animals may be removed under such conditions and in the manner authorized or prescribed by the Chief, Bureau of Biological Survey.

Regulation 7. Economic Utilization of Resources

Permits to cut and remove timber or firewood, occupy or cultivate areas, use any material of commercial value, or make other like use of any lands within the exterior boundary of such ranges, or refuges, which lands have been or may hereafter be acquired by the United States for the use of the Department of Agriculture for the conservation of migratory birds or other wildlife, not inconsistent with the objects for which such ranges, or refuges, were established, may be issued by the Chief, Bureau of Biological Survey, upon such terms and at such rates of charge, if any, as may be ascertained and determined by him to be commensurate with the value of the privilege given by such permits. Permits for like purposes as to other lands within such ranges, or refuges, may be issued in conformity with rules and regulations of the Department of the Interior covering such usage: *Provided*, That in order to safeguard the food and cover requirements for wildlife, permits to remove timber or firewood from the range, or refuge, shall not be issued until applications therefor have first been approved by the resident officer of the Bureau of Biological Survey and timber permittees shall make such disposition of brush, tops, lops, slashings, and other forest debris resulting from timber operations as such officer may prescribe.

Regulation 8. Fishing

Any person may enter upon any range, or refuge, for the purpose of fishing in accordance with the laws of the State in which such range, or refuge, is located, but must comply with the provisions of these regulations, and the rules for the administration of grazing districts.

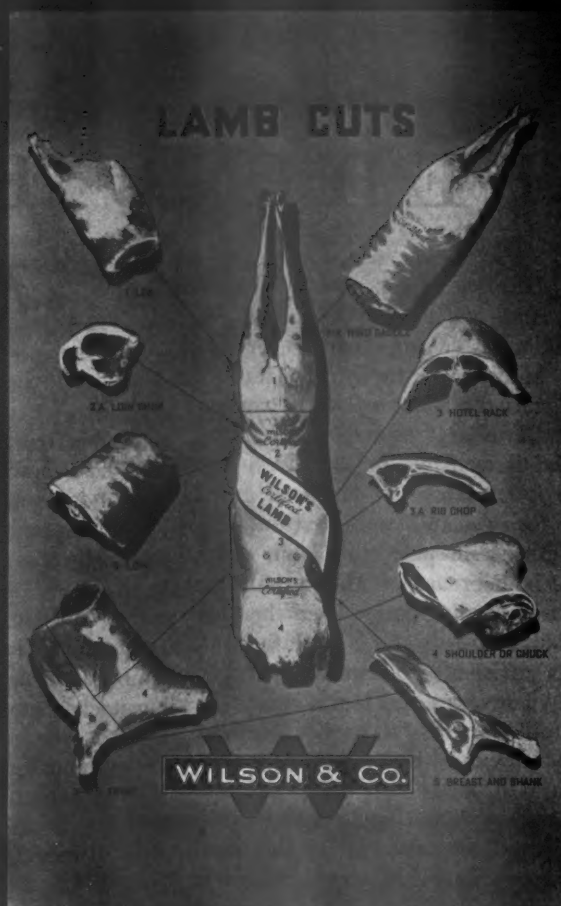
Regulation No. 9 covers the exhibition and revocation of permits. Permits are to be exhibited upon request of government officials connected with the administration of the ranges or refuges, or enforcement of laws relating to wildlife and may be revoked for nonuse or violation of any law or regulation pertaining to the game range, wildlife refuge or the protection of wildlife in general.



Selling Dressed Lamb

On this page we present some of the attractive styles in which various packers prepare lamb carcasses for sale to the retail trade. The brand names shown on the illustrations apply in each case to the highest grading class of carcasses sold by each of the firms. The proportion of the kill going into these fancier grades varies from 10 to 20 per cent, depending on the quality of the lambs at any particular season and upon the customs and ideas of the particular packer.

Until recently the knitted bag shown on the Swift carcass was in general use for these higher grades. Lately Armour and Company have adopted the cellophane package with the star and lamb's head as shown. Swift and Company are now doing a large business in the shipping of retailers' packages containing selected legs or other cuts for which some retailers have a special call.



FEEDING EWES

WHEN a young, wobbly legged lamb is following its mother, it is making faster gains than it ever will again at any other time during its life. The gains the lamb makes, of course, depend to a large extent on what kind of feed is available for the ewes, and there is no substitute for good green grass for ewes and lambs, but unfortunately most sheepmen that lamb early, along in February or March, have an expensive feeding period from the time the lambs are dropped until the sun smiles sufficiently to bring on the grass.

Just how ewes and lambs should be fed until the grass starts is a question always discussed by sheepmen, but apparently it is still an open question. When a ewe is still in the feed lot and raising a lamb or two, she consumes a large amount of hay and grain, but it is a consolation for the sheepman to know that when the ewe is well fed that the lambs are putting on rapid and economical gains.

In an attempt to find out something about feeding ewes and lambs, and something about the gains that the lambs would make, the Experiment Station at Union, Oregon, has just finished feeding six lots of ewes and lambs on six different feeds. Five of the lots were ewes with twin lambs, and one lot was ewes with single lambs.

The single lambs gained a little over one half pound each day, or .54 of a pound to be exact. The twin lambs did remarkably well as compared to the singles, gaining almost a half pound per day, or .44 of a pound as an average of all the lots. For comparison, feed-lot lambs, that is lambs weighing 60 to 70 pounds in the fall, and put on feed, make an average daily gain of some .3 of a pound. Not only do the young lambs put on faster gains, but also more economical. At current feed prices, it would cost some 12 cents per pound to fatten feed-lot lambs on alfalfa hay and barley, but these youngsters, nursing their mothers, at

the same feed prices, put on gains at a feed cost practically one half of the cost of fattening feed-lot lambs, that is by making some allowance for the wool grown by the ewes while raising the lambs.

The question arises, "How much good alfalfa hay will a ewe and her lamb eat in a day?" Well, when the haystacks are getting low, and the grass is slow to start, as it is every spring, and it snows a little every day, then all sheepmen know that a ewe and her lamb just eat a lot of hay. Winter feeding trials indicate that a good sized ewe will eat some four pounds of good alfalfa hay every day and like it, and thrive and do well, but after lambing, the ewe and her lamb, or pair of lambs, as the case may be, eat still more hay, and hay alone is not sufficient—some grain must be fed with it if the ewe is to keep strong and have ample milk for the lamb.

The ewes referred to above, with single lambs, received one pound of oats per day and chopped alfalfa hay in self-feeders, and "believe it or not," the ewes cleaned up 6.23 pounds of hay every day for the month of March, while they were on the feeding test. The hay being chopped, there was practically no waste. Every sheepman knows that in feeding ewes with lambs, the lambs eat some of the hay. Thus, the 6.23 pounds of hay is the amount consumed by the ewe and her lamb. If we were to take current feed prices of \$30 per ton for oats, and \$8 per ton for alfalfa hay, and charge all the expense up to the lamb, then the feed cost per pound gain would amount to 7.9 cents or practically 8 cents. However, this would be a little unfair to the lamb, for the ewes when being well fed, and in a lot where they were not

For Milk and Lamb Gains

By D. E. Richards,

Eastern Oregon Experiment Station

shedding wool as they do in the sagebrush, would grow a large amount of wool, and if we grant they would grow one pound of wool during the month of March, and discount its present value, or 35 cents, from the feed cost, then the feed cost per pound gain on the lamb would be reduced to 5.7 cents per pound.

Twins vs. Singles

When a ewe is raising two lambs, the story is more cheerful. One lot of ewes with twin lambs was fed just the same as the ewes with singles—that is, they were fed one pound of oats per day in two feeds, one-half pound each morning and evening, and chopped alfalfa hay from self-feeders. The ewes with the twins consumed practically one pound more hay each day than the ewes with the single lambs. The two lambs, or the pair of twins, gained almost one pound per day—to be exact, .97 of a pound, or at the rate of 29 pounds in a month of 30 days. Now, if we do a little figuring, we get a pound of gain on the twin lambs for 4.7 cents, and if we wish to give the ewe credit for raising a pound of wool during the month, then the feed cost of the gain will come clear down to 3.5 cents per pound.

One Pound Oats vs. One-half Pound Oats

Another lot of ewes with twin lambs was fed the same way, except that they were only given one-half pound of oats per day. The gain of their twin lambs was considerably less, as would be expected, or at the rate of 10.7 pounds each per month as compared to 14.5 pounds for each of the twin lambs where the ewes were given one pound of oats per day.

Third Cutting Best

To borrow a boy's expression, when ewes with twin lambs are fed good, bright green, third-cutting alfalfa, the lambs just "go to town."

Each of the twin lambs from a lot of ewes that was fed one pound oats and third-cutting alfalfa hay, gained over one-half pound each day, or at the rate of 15.4 pounds per lamb per month. With lambs gaining at this rate, each ewe in the lot was producing a little over one pound of lamb per day, or exactly 1.02 pounds. The haystacks went down pretty fast for these ewes, too. The lambs liked the third-cutting apparently a little better than their mothers, and they were always in the feed racks on top of the hay, and we had no way of knowing how much hay the lambs consumed, but if we take the three head, then each ewe and her two lambs cleaned up 8 pounds of hay each day.

Salt

Attention is called especially to the large amount of salt eaten by these ewes while they were on feed and nursing their lambs. The salt was the regular one-half ground stock salt, and it was kept in boxes where the ewes and lambs could lick it at will. The ewes consumed practically one pound each per month, if no allowance is made for the amount eaten by the lambs.

(From "Oregon Lambs and Wool")

This Should Not Happen

THE President some time ago submitted a report to Congress recommending a reorganization of the federal government. Among other things the plan proposes that the Interstate Commerce Commission be abolished as an independent governmental department and be placed under the direction of the executive department — which means under the complete direction of the President, whoever he happens to be.

The Interstate Commerce Commission has control over all railroad rates and certain other duties. It was created by Congress and is now a totally independent body from political influences. It hears cases regarding rates and railroad practices strictly on their merits. There has been very little complaint about its decisions and no complaint that they were tinged with politics.

The moment this organization is transferred to the executive for direction, it is inevitable that politics will play a large part in its direction. Labor will appeal to the President for an advance in wages with the understanding that rates are to be raised to compensate the railroads. Interested parties will seek admission to the Commission through the White House instead of by public hearing. Public respect for the Interstate Commerce Commission will become political disgust. Personally I hope the Congress leaves the Commission right where it is.

S. W. McClure.

Praise for Peter Spraynozzle

IT SEEMS to me that the April issue of the National Wool Grower is the best I ever saw. It is full of valuable information and expression of well-thought-out opinions, which tend toward the betterment of the precarious lot of a sheepman. But I want now to write especially about Peter Spraynozzle's page in this particular issue.

That fellow is a musician. Many people know that all good music is written about a musical idea or theme of possibly three or four notes. The composer's imagination rises up like a tree and branches out into many variations of scale and harmony, but these always hover about and come back to the central stem or theme.

Peter Spraynozzle's page is a very acceptable overture and its theme is "The grass is growing again." It gets a wistful yet hearty response in the heart of a range man. Yes, Mr. Spraynozzle, I salute you. You are not only

a delightfully homespun poet and philosopher; you are a musician, too. Sanderson, Texas H. C. Goldwire

Imports of Sheep and Goat Skins

THE total value of sheep, lamb, goats and kid skins imported into the United States in 1936 was \$31,892,280.00. Included in this total value were 21 million sheep and lamb skins, and 47 million goat and kid skins. Less than three million sheep-lamb skins carried wool.

The sheep-lamb skins had an average value of 49 cents each, and the goat-kid skins, 47 cents.

These skins came from 53 different countries. The largest exporters of sheep-lamb skins were Great Britain, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Australia and New Zealand. The goat-kid skins came principally from France, Russia, Mexico, Argentina, Brazil, Venezuela, British India and China.

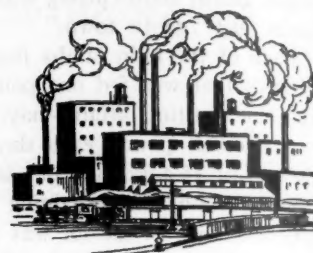
The imports of sheep skins and slats appear to be about equal to the number taken from slaughtered animals in the United States last year. There are no statistics to show the number of goat skins that were produced, or the number of dry sheep skins that entered into commerce from this country. It seems probable that the home production of goat skins amounts to very little in comparison to the 47 million imported.

All of these skins came in without paying duty. Duty was collected on the determined weight of wool carried by any of them.

In general, these skins are used for linings of suitcases and other luggage, for shoe linings, for some types of ladies' shoes, for ladies' hand bags, men's sports coats, etc. Strangely enough, in 1936 there were exported over two million raw sheep and goat skins, the bulk of which went to Canada.

National Wool Marketing Corporation

News Bulletin



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GROWER OWNED AND OPERATED

THE month of April closes with Summer Street in the doldrums. The earlier portion of the month was featured by active buying of such wools as were shorn, as well as contracting of wool to be shorn. Values appeared to be about on a par with those prevailing in January and February. It is now estimated that well over 100,000,000 pounds of the 1937 clip is under contract. Holders have found it more difficult to turn these contracts at a profit. Manufacturers for the most part are fairly well supplied for the time being. Foreign wools have been more of a factor in consumption since January 1 than for many years. Spot wool, however, of a desirable type found quite a ready sale for filling-in purposes at values ranging from \$1@1.05 clean. In the last ten days of April there seemed to be an element of uncertainty that had not previously existed. This certainly could not be the cause of any recession in values in foreign markets, for the Colonial sales opened with a very small, inferior selection on April 27, with values about 5@10 per cent above the close of the previous auction. This puts London fully on a par with late sales of Australian.

Foreign Markets

Practically all of the 1936 clip of Australia, South America, and South Africa has been sold ahead of schedule. Purchases of foreign wool will now have to be made from the secondary markets, or from dealers who have purchased wool at shearing time with the avowed intention of reaping a profit, which is now assured. It is, therefore, unlikely that any cheap wool will be available from any of the foreign wool centers. Shearing will not begin in the Southern Hemisphere until the latter part of September or early October, and practically no foreign wool will be available to this country until early in 1938. Recent trade treaties between Japan and Australia are reported to have been made which practically insures Japan's participation in future markets to a greater degree than ever before. In fact, Japan is becoming a more important factor in wool textile circles every year and is now knocking at the door of America in an effort to break into our markets here on semi-manufactured woolen goods.

Consumption

Recent figures on consumption for the month of March, which are the latest available, show consumption of wools for clothing uses, in that month, of over 40 million pounds. This indicates that consumption is continuing at a very high rate. This is a little less than the same month in 1935 but considerably above March of 1936, and far greater than the average monthly consumption since 1920. Those who have prophesied a falling off in consumption find little to support their views in trade circles. Although new business is not as plentiful as manufacturers desire, it is quite evident that they already have enough orders to run their mills at satisfactory capacity for some weeks, and perhaps months, to come.

Condition 1937 Wools Attractive

Early shorn wools of the 1937 clip arriving in this market are found to be much lighter in shrinkage than many anticipate. It is said that some of the early shorn Nevada wools shrink as low as 60 per cent and are fairly well grown. This, perhaps, is 4@5 per cent less than the same wools shrank a year ago, and upon this basis have a superior grease value of about 4@5 cents per pound upon the same market. Southern Utah wools, it is reported, are shrinking in many cases 4@5 per cent less than they did one year ago. We notice the weight of the bags on incoming invoices are in some instances 50 pounds lighter than the same clip was a year ago. One prominent grower notified us after shearing that his wool appeared to be as well grown as a year ago but that fleeces weighed two pounds less. This would indicate, as well as the weight of the bags, that this wool is very much lighter in condition than one year ago. It now appears that growers did not fully capitalize on the superior condition of their wools and that wools estimated to cost \$1 clean landed Boston may well turn out to cost no more than 90 cents. This is a very important factor that should be carefully weighed and considered by the wool growers themselves.

Quiet Spell

The future trend of the market is largely in the hands of the wool growers. Wool is in a very strong statistical

position, and in this respect shows no weakness whatever as compared with three weeks ago when contracting was rampant. The fact that dealers have now spent a reasonable amount of money and their need for wool satisfied temporarily should not be a bearish factor on the wool market in a broad sense of the word. If the wool was worth \$1@1.05 clean landed Boston to dealers entering into contracts three weeks ago, the wool should be worth just as much to the growers today. If, on the other hand, pressure is applied in the West and the growers recede in their idea of values, an opportunity will be presented for the dealers to average their costs down and the whole marketing structure will thus be affected. The majority of those interested freely admit the inherent strength of wool. There is a limit, however, to the capital that may be invested in any one commodity and it is too much for the growers to expect Summer Street to lift the entire clip, which will require about \$110,000,000, in the shearing period. Those who have temporarily withdrawn from the market are, in the majority of cases, free to prophesy that wool will participate in the general upward trend of commodity prices.

The Top Futures Exchange

Here is the fly in the ointment; usually considered to be an evil practice, yet has gained such proportions that it can no longer be ignored. To what extent the slump in the top futures market quoted on the New York Stock Exchange has contributed to the present inactivity is problematical. Suffice to say that during the month of April top quotations have slumped about 9½ cents per pound. It is quite sure that New York goods manufacturers are paying more and more attention to this as a barometer to market trends. A contract consists of 5,000 pounds of manufactured top, the equivalent to a small carload of wool. The extent to which this is practiced is illustrated by the number of contracts changing hands on given days the latter part of April. It is stated that as many as 120 contracts, or the equivalent of 600,000 pounds of tops, which would require in excess of 2,000,000 pounds of wool, changed hands in one day. The effect upon the grease wool market of these transactions appears all too frequently to be on the bearish side. Territory wools upon May 3 were being offered by several factors in the wool trade as low as 93 cents clean. It is probably quite true that these offers were made possible by a clever method of hedging on the top exchange, but to the manufacturers there is only one important feature and that is that they are getting the wool at 93 cents clean landed on a quoted market at around \$1@1.05. In this manner operations on the top exchange frequently have a very detrimental effect upon grease wool values.

Transactions in Fleece Wool

Early shorn Michigan and Ohio medium wools of the quarter-blood and three-eighths grade some three weeks ago found a fairly ready sale at 43@46 cents in the grease, landed Boston. Probably thirty to forty cars were sold in

this range. This meant about 40 cents to the growers in these two states who produced choice wool. The market was in no condition to absorb a volume within this range of values. Order-buyers found it more difficult to place their offerings. Today they are offering 35 cents in Michigan and Ohio to the growers for medium wools, and offerings in Boston at 42 cents are not finding an outlet. Manufacturers are not wool minded today. Medium wools from Iowa, Illinois, and the Mississippi Valley have been sold in this market at 40 cents delivered, with a few sales of early shorn semi-bright wools from Dakota and Minnesota selling at 38@39 cents Boston. The manufacturers using fleece wool are all singing the same tune, namely, they must reduce the value of quarter-blood and three-eighths to 75 cents clean before business can be resumed. This is a decrease of about 10 cents clean over the cost of the early shorn wools three weeks ago.

Territory Wools

A few of the old territory fine wools available on the Street were picked up at around \$1@1.05, and it is fair to say that a substantial weight of the early contracts of territory wool were turned around the \$1 mark. As previously stated, it is estimated that well over one hundred million pounds of the 1937 clip has been sold, of which perhaps 50 per cent has been transferred to mill account. The bulk of these were probably sold on a guaranteed shrinkage basis. If the wools continue to come off as light as the early wools now indicate, the dealers will most likely be able to make a handsome profit. We dislike to believe that sufficient pressure will exist in the West to enable dealers to acquire any substantial volume of wool at the present limits, which appear to be 90 cents clean, landed Boston. This is a time when in our judgment growers should take a firm stand and refuse to accept lower offers. We believe wool is worth just as much money today as it was three weeks ago, and that the function of the National Wool Marketing Corporation is to step in the breach at just such a time as this, encourage consignments and thereby stabilize the market as we did in 1936.

Prices are Good — Do We Need the Co-op?

NO, WE are getting good prices for our wool. We don't need the co-op this year."

You probably haven't answered a cooperative fieldman that way, but others have. In fact, we are thinking now about a certain wool grower who made just that statement when he was called on to discuss the marketing of his 1937 clip by a cooperative fieldman.

"You see," he went on to say, "we have had a pretty good market out here this year. I can sell my wool today for more than I received a year ago. Of course, they will

probably dock me a bit for my rejects this year, and I'm not so sure about my shrinkage. I noticed you co-op fellows in your 'Wool Clip' are commenting on the fact that most of the wool that has been shorn so far this year is shrinking two to three per cent less than it did a year ago. I wish I was sure as to just what it shrank last year. However, all the dealers seem to be anxious to get hold of our wool."

"Then, in spite of the fact you will admit you don't know what the shrinkage is, you feel the co-op couldn't help this year," the fieldman replied.

"No, I don't think so," was the immediate answer. "Not so long as we are treated all right. Of course, if the buyers pull out, stop buying, and the market breaks a nickel a pound, as it has in past years, I might feel different. Some of my neighbors have tried to talk me into shipping to the co-op with them."

"What has been their luck with the co-op?"

"Well, they haven't received any more for their wool every year than I have, but I guess they have done all right. Seems to me that last year they did get about a nickel more for their wool than I did, and to be honest, as I recall, they beat me about four cents in 1935."

"Well, have you really followed the progress of the cooperative wool marketing movement, and checked what it has done and what it is trying to do for growers?" argued the fieldman.

"Oh, yes. I get your weekly news letter—that's where I found out that wool was shrinking lighter this year. I have heard some of your radio reports on the market. In fact, you fellows supply me with all my market information—that is why I feel I am able to sell my wool this year. I guess you fellows are doing all right. We have a member association right here in the state. They are doing a good job too. Last winter when we were snowed in up here on the range that association saw to it that the roads were cleared. We had some emergency feed hauled out to one of our bands by them. You see, they help us all out whether we are members or not."

"Well then, from what you know about cooperative marketing, has it done any good?"

"Land sakes, yes!" he exclaimed. "The co-op has done more for the wool growers when it comes to marketing than any other group. They are the only group in the field today that is interested in trying to get us more for our wool. I am not blaming the other fellow—he naturally is trying to see how cheap he can buy."

"I have said many times that we wouldn't be getting the price we are getting today for wool if it weren't for the co-op. As I recall, you played the market out to the full limit last year—sold most of your wool from November to February. You adjusted the supply to the demand. You are giving these dealers competition, and they know if they don't pay up we ship to the co-op."

The fieldman was puzzled. You would have been too. For here was a man who fully recognized the bene-

fits of cooperative marketing. He had admitted he didn't know what his wool would shrink—so he didn't know its value. He had seen examples of where the trained co-op salesman dealing direct with the mills had been able to net his neighbors more for their wool.

He used the co-op market information, and accordingly was aware that prices at shearing, in eight years out of nine, are at their lowest—yet the cooperative was a sort of "last resort," a life-saver, when the dealers refused to buy or bid way under what he thought was the true market value. To him it was only of use in time of trouble, to be forgotten on good markets.

As the fieldman left him he asked one last question, "You still feel then that you shouldn't patronize the co-op—that you don't need to?"

"You have me wrong," was the immediate answer. "I said we do need the co-op, and if the market gets bad I'll certainly ship to you."

"Suppose all wool growers felt the same way?"

"Then we wouldn't have any co-op," was his rejoinder.

Fortunately, this man was only one individual, but there are too many who look on the co-op in the same light. They all recognize and accept all the advantages that the co-op has to give, but contribute nothing to its success. They want someone else to do the things that the wool industry needs to have done; they simply want to hitch hike their way to market.

Forward-looking wool growers established the National Wool Marketing Corporation because they saw a need for a sound, permanent wool marketing system that would serve them in both years of depression and boom years—returning in both a fair price for their wool. A system that would properly prepare their wools so they would be most attractive to the mill buyers. A system wherein the producer of good wools would receive full reward—where proper recognition would be given to shrinkage, class, and grade.

One that meets the problems that continually face the wool growers and solves them to the benefit of the man back on the range or the farm. One that will seek new measures and methods of service.

A system that would effect economies in marketing of the wool, handling it at actual cost. One that would adjust supply to demand and prevent the usual spring slump in wool values when the weight of the clip is thrown on the market.

All of these things and more can and will be accomplished as more growers study their marketing problems and unite with their neighbors in solving them. Which means in plain English—get behind the National Wool Marketing Corporation and their member agencies in 1937. They can serve you as well this year as they did in 1936.

Studies in the

GROWTH OF WOOL

WOOL grows at a uniform rate throughout the year as long as feed conditions remain the same. Owing to the variation in the quantity and quality of the food supply under ordinary conditions, the rate of growth in the spring and summer months is from two to nine per cent greater than in the balance of the year.

These conclusions were reached as the result of four years' tests with over 70 fine-wool ewes conducted from 1929 to 1932 by the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station. The figures are reported in Ohio Bulletin 571, the author of which is D. S. Bell. Associated with him in the preparation of the material were D. A. Spencer and J. I. Hardy of the Bureau of Animal Industry. In reviewing the general literature on the subject of greater growth of wool, Bell states that several German investigators have reported that about two thirds of the yearly wool production was grown during the six months following shearing and that there was little growth during the eleventh and twelfth months of the wool growing year. In the Ohio experiment, the wool growing year was divided into eight periods of six weeks each, commencing on April 20 after shearing. Supplemental feed was used in the winter months, but its value for wool growing apparently was not equal to the natural pasturage which was furnished up to October 5. The author summarizes the material relating to the growth of wool in the following words:

The experiments herein reported show that American Merino and Tasmanian Merino sheep kept in Ohio under husbandry practices which insured thrift and good condition grew their fleeces at a somewhat irregular rate throughout the wool growing year. Variations in the rate of growth occurred which could be closely associated with the seasonal conditions of feed supply. Fresh and luxuriant spring and early summer pasture (probably because of its high protein content) accelerated the rate of

growth of wool fiber by as much as 23.6 per cent. Likewise, the dry pastures of mid-summer or the frosted pastures of late fall had a slightly retarding influence on the rate of growth of wool fiber. Under conditions where the feed supply was constant, such as it was during the winter feeding season and when the sheep were not affected by outside influences, the rate of wool fiber growth was quite constant.

The sheep on these tests showed a slight tendency to grow more wool during the summer grazing season than during the winter feeding season. However, the greatest variation in this respect was shown by the group of six yearling wethers which grew 54 per cent of the total yearly growth of wool during the first four periods following shearing and 46 per cent during the second four periods of the wool growing year. Generally, the groups showed more nearly a 50-50 percentage.

Ewes not bred apparently had no advantage in wool production over bred ewes until after lambing. Milk production reduced the rate of growth as much as 18 per cent as well as affecting the quality and appearance of the fleece as a whole. In discussing these points, the author says:

Pregnancy does not influence the rate of growth of wool produced by well-fed Merino sheep, as determined in an experiment to study this factor specifically and as observed in three other groups of ewes. The greatest variation in growth noted in any 6-week period between closely related bred and unbred ewes was 0.02 inch.

Yearling (commonly spoken of as lambing) and starting milk flow had a pronounced retarding influence on the rate of growth of wool fiber. All groups in which the influence of this factor was noted showed the same result. Those ewes which lambed showed that the rate of growth was retarded as much as 18 per cent. It is common knowledge among wool growers that the fleeces of ewes which lamb before shearing collapse and present a "mushy" appearance. Fleeces of lambed-out ewes lose the loftiness which is characteristic of fleeces removed before lambing or fleeces from sheep not subjected to the lambing process. All of the test sheep showed this characteristic collapse of the fleece. It is suggested that the diminution in the rate of growth of the wool fiber, which occurs during and immediately following lambing, may be responsible for fleece collapse, or, perhaps more

accurately, this is a measure of the interrupting or retarding influence occasioned by the sudden physiological changes which occur to the ewe at lambing time. Carrying this a step farther, it has been shown by Hardy and Tennyson and Wilson that coarser fibers of greater diameter are closely associated with rapid rate of growth of wool and that fibers of lessened diameter are associated with a retarded rate of wool growth. Further, the strength of wool fiber is proportional to the area of the cross section of the fibers. Thus, if retarded growth produces a finer wool fiber, it is axiomatic that such fibers will be weaker. Hence, for the production of uniformly strong wool fiber throughout its full annual length growth, shearing and lambing seasons should be so timed as to come reasonably close together.

The next most interesting result of the Ohio work is found in the reports of the studies of density of fleece. This point and others were studied through comparison of four years' shearing of ten American Merino ewes and ten imported Tasmanian Merino ewes. Just why Tasmanian ewes should have been selected for comparison with the Ohio stock is not apparent unless it be that the Tasmanian strains in size and quality of wool more nearly resemble the Delaine type than do the more popular commercial types now prevailing in all parts of Australia outside of Tasmania. In fact, the Tasmanian blood is somewhat of a relic in most parts of Australia and apparently is adhered to by only a few individuals. At one time in the evolution of Australian wool production, the present Tasmanian type was a real factor, but on account of its lack of size and other defects, it was long ago left behind in the race for popularity based on profitable wool production under Australian conditions.

Both groups of ewes were at first scored for density on the basis of physical examination. With the ewes having the greatest appearance of density as registered by the exterior feel of the fleece, one was given as a

perfect score and those with less density graded down two. Under this system of measuring the American bred ewes averaged 1.63 and the Tasmanian ewes 1.83. Later laboratory studies of the number of fibers per square inch of body surface showed that the Tasmanian stock averaged 40,000 as compared to 24,000 for the American Merino when shorn as two-year-olds. The same sheep shorn as seven-year-olds showed 16,500 fibers per square inch and 26,500 for the Tasmanian ewes. Commenting on this apparent discrepancy, the author says:

Apparently, the higher percentage content of grease and dirt in American Merino fleeces imparted a feeling of fullness and compactness that was readily misjudged as density. Among wrinkly, short-stapled, greasy-fleeced, B-type American Merino rams this feeling of fullness and compactness, due to grease and dirt, resulted in gross misjudgment of density to the extent that the estimate of their wool producing capacity was a serious misconception. * * *

Contrary to existing opinion among breeders, the results obtained indicate that wrinkly, excessively greasy-fleeced American Merino sheep may, and in this test actually did, produce fewer wool fibers per square inch of skin area than smooth-bodied American Merino sheep. It seems that individual sheep do not produce an abundance of wool oil and also an abundance of wool fiber. Also, wrinkling does not contribute to density of wool fiber.

A still more interesting phase of the bulletin is found in the report of the strength of hereditary character of Tasmanian sheep for growing long, light-shrinking wool. The four years' average on grease weight of fleeces from ten American Merino ewes was 13.04 pounds compared to 9.36 pounds for the Tasmanian ewes. However, under the same conditions of feeding and management, the clean yield of the Tasmanian fleeces over the four years was 52.15 per cent as contrasted to only 35.26 per cent in the case of the American stock. The average clean weight of wool produced per ewe per year was 4.8 for the Tasmanian and only 4.6 for the American ewes. This, in spite of the fact that the average weight of the Tasmanian ewes after shearing was 88.8 pounds as contrasted to 106.7 for the American ewes. It is quite apparent that there is a strongly bred quality of producing wool instead of

grease in the Tasmanian stock that continues even when transplanted to another country.

The American ewes' average fleeces contained 27.68 per cent of grease as compared to only 18.8 for the Tasmanian fleeces. This extra amount of useless grease apparently was responsible for the additional amount of dirt content in the fleeces of the American ewes. Commenting on this point, the author says:

The contention that a high grease content is necessary is founded on the fact that some grease or wool oil is necessary to protect the fleece from climatic influences during wool growth. Many growers now believe that the present high grease content of Tri-State fine wool is essential to protect the growing fleece from climatic influences as they prevail in Ohio and the Tri-State area. Obviously, if the present high grease content is necessary, then the greasier American Merino fleeces should be better protected from the weathering influences of Ohio's climate than the less greasy Tasmanian Merino fleeces. In this study, however, this was disproved, as shown by the scores for character and closure, which represent the measure of the influence of climatic factors. The less greasy fleeces of the Tasmanian Merinos consistently scored a higher per cent of perfect for both character and closure of the fleece than the greasier American Merino fleeces. A study of the individual records of American Merino fleeces indicates that excessive grease or wool oil is very frequently associated with low scores for character and closure and that excessively greasy fleeces suffer greater damage from weathering influences than the less greasy fleeces. It was apparent, therefore, that some factor or factors other than high grease content contributed to the protection of fine wool fleeces grown under Ohio climate. * * *

The author appears to reject the common theory that wrinkly rams must be used in wool flocks to maintain density. In fact he reached the opposite conclusion. He says:

The reason advanced for injecting the blood of wrinkly rams with their greasy fleeces into ewe flocks is to increase density. In the light of the results of these tests it would seem that this practice is actually defeating the object sought. The average density found on smooth-bodied ewes was 27,487 wool fibers per square inch of skin area while wrinkly ewes possessed an average of 23,898 wool fibers per square inch of skin area.

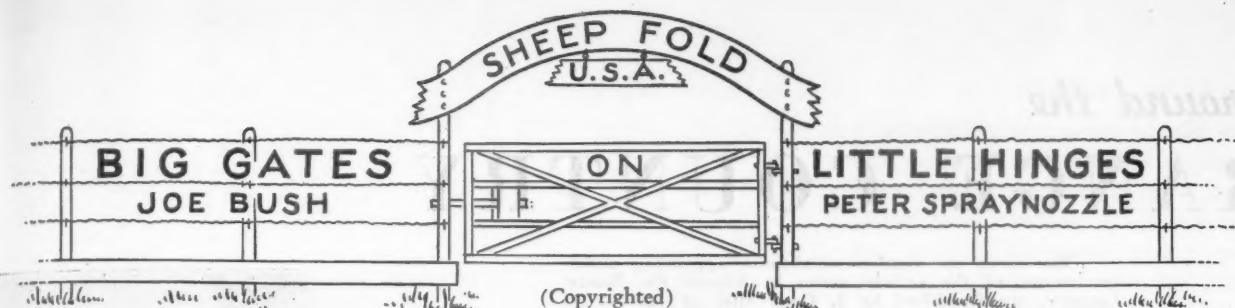
Density of wool fibers appeared to be incompatible with a high grease content, since those fleeces which were high in their

grease content showed a low density of wool fibers while those fleeces which showed extreme density were uniformly and invariably low in grease content. Apparently, a sheep cannot produce both an abundance of wool fiber and an abundance of oil. The question to be decided is whether to breed sheep for wool, which at present is worth 80 cents per clean pound, or grease which cannot be profitably salvaged.

The results of this experiment also disprove the contention that true density and length of staple may not go together. It was found that the fleeces of greatest density were fully as long as the less dense fleeces. The average length of 5-year fleeces from ten American bred ewes was 2.74 inches, and from the Tasmanian, 3.17 inches. In connection with the relationship between length and density, and between length and the amount of dirt in the fleeces, it was stated:

Length of staple is a very important quality of wool from the manufacturer's standpoint. It is frequently contended among breeders of Merino sheep, however, that great density of fiber is incompatible with the production of long-staple fleeces, and thus length is frequently sacrificed to obtain so-called density. The results of these experiments, as brought out in the study of the influence of density on length of staple, disproved this contention. The fleeces of greatest density were fully as long as the fleeces of least density and individuals were found that possessed as many as 44,651 to 45,820 wool fibers per square inch of skin area and grew this great density to an unstretched length of 3.25 and 3.62 inches. Perhaps the short-stapled, wrinkly, greasy-fleeced rams and ewes, which, because of these qualities, were misjudged as to density of wool fibers, may have led breeders to the false opinion that great density and great length are unattainable on the same sheep.

Another popular opinion which these experiments tend to nullify is the relationship between length of staple and dirt in the fleece. The opinion is that the longer fleeces are dirtier fleeces. In these experiments the fleeces with the higher percentage of dirt were, with both breeds, shorter in their average length of staple than the fleeces with the lower percentage of dirt. Length and density tend to protect a fleece of wool from dirt. Short staple and a high grease content encourage the accumulation of dirt.



Where big gates swing on little hinges
 Where we die in and here folks sing
 "Ven its spring time in the Rockies
 "We are coming back agin—"
 Coming back "Vell I should hope so—
 Why if Joe und me should be away—
 When its "Spring time in the Rockies"
 When the bloom is on the sage
 We'd fight—Bob cats—Bear cats—Pole cats
 Man we'd crawl back—just to get back—
 When its spring time on the range.
 Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, Why it takes all of Montana
 Colorado und Wyoming, just to give a feller room
 To plant his feet—to stretch hisself—
 To swell his chest—to throw his hat—un yell
 "When its spring time in the Rockies"—
 Und the range grows green again.

MAY 1937 und like Joe Bush says "Where do we go from here." Over in Europe dictators have apparently become afflicted vid the "hoof und mouth" descese. That is, they are haveing their armys hoofing it here und there—und are mouthing threats at one another just to scare somebody, while here at home the government is planing to build warships that the budget vill have a hard time budging out of the ship yards even on a long time payment plan.

Industery is organizing its dollors. Labor leaders in two great camps are organizing the ranks of labor in greater number und in more industerys then ever befor.

Agricultural und live stock organizations are adding to there numbbber. Co-oprative sales organizations are being set up to shorten the route from the producer to the consumer—untill like Joe Bush says, "May 1937 und where do we go from here."

Joe Bush says it might be well to remember that after all the organizations—organizations affecting agricultural, labor, industery und financial groups—have been set up, there will still be the labor, the wealth, the industery of something like a hundred million Americans unorganized und that great body of unorganized men und women vid there limited wealth multiplied by a hundred million represent the market where agriculture, labor und industery sell there raw und finished product. Where ve go from here depends on there ability und willingness to buy.

Wool growers who read this believe in organization. The National Wool Growers Association was born in Syracuse, New York, December, 1865, und this year January 26-28 held its 72nd annual convention at Albuquerque, New Mexico.

In the building of organizations, labor, industery, capital should build to establish confidence, upon which each can venture out on a long time program. Spasmodic in-

vestment of capital, spasmodic employment of labor, spasmodic pirods of business activity for industery vill never bring America to the hiway of national prosperity.

If industery is resentful of the wage it must pay labor, if labor is resentful of the profits industery must have, then like Joe Bush says in addition to "onion day," "poultry day," "clean up days," und dog days, we had better have "a love your neighbor Golden rule day" to get a proper understanding of the "brotherhood of man."

To organize—to bring men und women together—where as is written in Isaiah, 41-6 and 7, "They helped every one his neighbor; and each said to his brother, Be of good courage. So the carpenter encouraged the goldsmith and he that smoothed with the hammer, him that smote the anvil, saying it is ready for the sodering * * *."

But always the membership should be able to controll the leadership. It is easy to put out a match—not so easy to put out a forest fire. Quoteing Solomon in proverbs, "Though joined hand in hand, the wicket shall not go unpunished." Und like Joe Bush says "wicket" is a feeble word to discribe a leader who will rob his fellow man of his substance so the leader may feed like a glutton while thos he leads are in need of food, clothing und shelter.

Joe Bush says the big job that confronts the American people in this month of May 1937 is to cooperate und build confidence, to stimulate industery, to employ labor, to revive old und find new markets, to promote peace at home und vid the nations over seas. Und the real man, the real American wants to do this "on his own." He don't vant to pan-handle the President or the congress of his country with "a mister can you spare a dime" plea.

If labor und industery are without confidence in each other—if they would do by coercion vhat can better be done by co-operation—vhen Government seeks the regimentation of labor, industery, agriculture there may be need of a government of, by, und for bureaus, committies und commission. But the Government of the USA—of, by, und for the people—has not been built by "planning boards" or "make work committies," but by men und women who tackled the job vid there own bare hands—und done there best "vid the tools at hand."

Even now, as when the Man of Galilee is quoted in Luke, "the harvest is great but the laborers are few." So it vas then so it is now. No great work has ever been done, no great country has ever been built, by "crystal-gazers"—men who guess—or by men who would run a band of sheep, a ranch or any kind of business by "remote controll" from a state or a national capitol.

Around the **RANGE COUNTRY**

The notes on weather conditions, appearing under the names of the various states in *Around the Range Country*, are furnished by J. Cecil Alter of the U. S. Weather Bureau and based upon reports and publications for the month of April.

The Wool Grower welcomes and desires communications from interested readers in any part of the country for this department of the Wool Grower and also invites comment and opinions upon questions relating to the sheep industry and of importance and significance to wool growers.

WYOMING

Moderate or seasonal temperatures prevailed, with no conspicuous cold snaps detrimental to livestock. Snows were frequent in the southern and eastern sections, and soil moisture is ample in many counties. Farther north, however, rain would help. The livestock have been kept in good to excellent condition by supplemental feeding, but they are now subsisting almost entirely on spring forage. A light loss of lambs and calves occurred in north-eastern counties.

MONTANA

Seasonal temperature conditions prevailed, most of the month in daytime, but cold nights held back vegetation growth appreciably. Range grasses and other forage made slow growth, though livestock were showing some improvement over western counties. Farther east ranges needed rain, and were slower in development; consequently livestock were barely holding their own. Cold, snowy weather the last week resulted in slight losses of lambs and calves.

Havre

Range conditions during April have been very poor, much worse now (April 24) than at the same time in the previous two or three years. There is no old grass at all and the new grass has a very poor start.

Lambing has just started. As yet no deals have been made for either fat or feeder lambs. Wools have been contracted recently as high as 35 cents. Shearing has not commenced yet and

I am not certain what the rate will be. In all respects it is costing us more to produce lambs and wool this year than in 1936.

Raymond Lenhart

Big Timber

Conditions (April 24) are worse than they have been in the previous two or three years at this season. April, as a whole, has brought us poor weather and feed.

Winter losses were about normal and in the lambing done so far, the results have been about as in 1936. Some feeder lambs of this year's crop have been contracted at 8 cents. Wools shrinking around 62 per cent have been contracted recently at 35 cents a pound; no shearing has been done yet.

Production costs during the present year will be higher than for 1936.

Coyotes are less numerous.

Anton Lien

Winnett

The weather is cold and dry, feed poor (April 26), and conditions in general are not so good as they were last April. The death loss during the winter has been light.

There has been very little lambing to date; a few feeder lambs have been contracted at 7½ cents. Quarter and three-eighths blood wool has been moving at 30 to 35 cents. Shearing has not yet commenced and I do not know what will be paid for it.

The biggest drawback on the range in this section, next to the drought, is the cactus. From 50 to 75 per cent of the range is covered with that plant.

XX.



Caught

IDAHO

A considerable amount of cold weather occurred, and the growing season is somewhat backward. There is plenty of moisture, however, as snow or rain has occurred frequently, and in most sections in ample amounts for immediate needs. Sunshine and warmth are needed nearly everywhere. Drying winds locally have made irrigating necessary in the south, during the last week. Livestock are generally in good condition.

Twin Falls

The weather has been cold since the first of April and feed is short (the 24th). Range feed is poor by comparison with what it has been in recent years at this time.

Death loss during the winter has been about normal and an average number of lambs per hundred ewes has been saved in the lambing operations of this district up to date. A few contracts have already been made for June delivery of fat lambs at 9 to 10 cents.

Contracts on three-eighths and quarter blood wool, shrinking about 55 per cent, have lately been made at 37½ cents. From 11 to 12 cents is being paid for shearing; the rate for contract shearing, with contractor furnishing help for wrangling, sacking, etc., is 17½ cents a head.

Production costs this year will exceed those of last by about \$1.60 per head.

We are in Idaho Grazing District No. 2, and licenses have not yet been issued.

A. B.

American Falls

The spring grass has grown slowly; the season, in fact, is three weeks late (April 22). Sheep have been off feed lots for ten days. Winter losses have been slightly below average, but results of early lambing are not quite so good as in 1936.

No transactions on the 1937 lamb crop have been made and no contracts for wool have been signed up in this section recently.



—Belden

Caught in a Late Wyoming Snow.

Wages have been increased the past year and supplies are costing us more, which will lower any profit margin we might have.

It is too early for us to say whether or not the work of the Taylor Grazing Board is going to be satisfactory, especially in the matter of issuing licenses, as the work has not progressed that far.

So far as I know, the only reductions being made this year in the numbers of sheep grazed under forest permits are on transfers.

W. H. Philbrick

Idaho Falls

The weather is cold and range feed two to three weeks late (April 25). The season is a backward one. Losses during the winter were below those of last year. Yields in lambing done up to this time about equal those of a year ago. No deals have been made on the new crop.

From present indications it looks as if it is going to cost us more to produce our lamb and wool crops this year than in 1936.

The functioning of the Advisory Board of the Taylor Grazing District here is very satisfactory.

Ed C. Phillips

WASHINGTON

Seasonal to moderately cool temperatures occurred, with occasional to frequent rains or snows; consequently the growing season is rather backward. During the last week, however, a more rapid and satisfactory development of range pasturage and domestic pastures and meadows was reported, and livestock are mostly in good condition. Owing to the retarded season, however, many stockmen were forced to purchase hay.

Yakima

Feed is slow in starting (April 26) and the weather has been terrible, with too much cold rain; in fact, it is the worst April in years. Winter losses have been much heavier, especially during lambing. The number of lambs saved is about 15 per cent below last year's.

Crossbred wools shrinking from 55 to 58 per cent have moved recently at 33 to 36 cents a pound and fine wools with a 68 to 72 per cent shrink have been taken at 30 to 33 cents. It is costing us 12½ cents per head for shearing, with board included. For contract shearing, the rate is 16 cents per head, for which the contractor furnishes the tier and sacker and we furnish the wranglers. Production costs, in general, will be higher this year.

No cuts have been made in the number of sheep allotted in forest grazing permits.

There apparently are not so many coyotes around here as there were last year.

Yakima Sheep Company

North Dalles

The spring here has been unusually cold and cloudy. During April it has rained almost every day, which has kept the grass from growing.

Winter losses were normal and none of them due to severe winter, as all the sheep were well fed. Results of lambing up to date are reported as from average to 10 per cent above those in 1936. Eight cents has been offered for fat lambs of the new crop, but not accepted by the growers.

In recent wool transactions, 35 cents has been the top price. No shearing has been done yet, except in small flocks, but 12½ cents per head with board and 15 cents without will be paid for it. Nearly all ranches here furnish the board for shearers.

Coyotes are more numerous and more destructive. It is almost impossible to trap or poison them, so shrewd have they become. Dens should be found and the young killed and the old ones should be shot or hunted with dogs.

Leo F. Brune

Dupont

We have had the worst winter here in twenty years. The season is at least one month behind and the grass is very slow in getting a start. While losses have been about normal, the long feed this winter and increases in wages and

general supplies will bring production costs way up.

The yield on this year's lambing so far is about 10 per cent short of that of last year at this date. Some fat lambs have been contracted for August delivery at 10 cents, but I do not know of any transactions in feeders.

As much as 36 cents has been given recently for Valley wool shrinking around 55 per cent. Shearing commences the middle of May.

We are not troubled much with coyotes, but there are plenty of dogs to worry us.

W. H. Aldrich

OREGON

Cloudy days and freezing nights, with moderate to generous precipitation, have made this a backward season for vegetation growth. Soil moisture is ample nearly everywhere. Hay became scarce before spring pasturage was available generally, consequently livestock have not made much improvement in recent weeks. Conditions in most sections were unfavorable for spring lambs.

Cove

We have had plenty of moisture, but the grass is very slow in coming along (April 23). Conditions are about the same, so far as weather and feed are concerned, as in the past two or three years, with possibly more rain. The winter was not as hard on the flocks as in other years and more lambs have been saved to date than was the case last year.

While no deals have actually been made, 8 cents is being offered for fat lambs of the 1937 crop and 7 cents for feeders.

Thirty-five cents is the top in recent wool contracts, but I do not know what the grade and shrinkage of the wool is.

Our costs are mounting all the time. This year we are paying more for labor and everything we need in the way of supplies has advanced in price.

(Continued on page 39)

FREIGHT RATE AFFAIRS

By Chas. E. Blaine, Traffic Counsel

National Wool Growers Association

THE Interstate Commerce Commission sustained the contention of the Chicago Live Stock Exchange in its fifty-year fight against the assessment of switching charges in addition to the line-haul rates on livestock destined to the Union Stock Yards at Chicago, and ordered the charge of \$2.70 per car abolished, effective April 16, 1937.

Chicago Livestock Switching Case

In 1934, 142,675 carloads of livestock were received at the Union Stock Yards at Chicago. Thus, the abolition of the switching charge of \$2.70 per car based upon the movement in 1934 is equivalent to a saving of \$385,222.50 to livestock producers. The American National Live Stock Association and the National Wool Growers Association intervened in support of the complaint. The Chicago Live Stock Exchange is to be congratulated upon its good work in this proceeding.

Routing Bills

Under section 15, paragraphs (3) and (4) of the Interstate Commerce Act, the Interstate Commerce Commission is precluded at the present time from establishing through routes and joint rates when such action would short-haul the originating carriers. Consequently, much traffic is being handled via circuitous routes merely for the purpose of giving the originating carrier the long haul. For example, from Silver City, New Mexico, to Los Angeles, California, the short-line distance is 772 miles via the Santa Fe to Deming, thence the Southern Pacific. However, the rates on livestock from and to said points, which were prescribed by the Commission in the western livestock case for distance of 772 miles are restricted via the Santa Fe to apply via its 1,115 mile line through Belen. In other words, the Santa Fe in order to secure the long-haul handles shipments 343 miles, or 44½ per cent, greater distance via its line than the short-line distance.

In order to allow the Commission to eliminate such wasteful transportation,

Senator Wheeler has introduced S. 1261 and Representative Lea has introduced H.R. 4341 in the present Congress. We are informed that the latter bill does not include the last paragraph of S. 1261. Therefore, the livestock producers should urge their members in Congress to support S. 1261 and to amend H.R. 4341 in conformity therewith.

Late word is to the effect that the Senate Committee has ordered favorable report on S. 1261.

Product Rates Not Justified

The Commission in I. & S. Dockets 4214 and 4253 has found not justified the downward revision of rates on fresh meats, packing-house products and related articles, in straight or mixed carloads, from Chicago, Illinois, to various destinations in the states east thereof, and ordered the suspended schedules canceled, and has discontinued the proceedings.

The proposed reductions were stated by the railroads to be necessary to meet motor truck competition. They were supported by three of the major packing companies in Chicago. Packers in the territories east and west of Chicago, along with the Central Motor Freight Association and others, opposed the proposed reductions.

Several interests, according to the report, petitioned the Commission to institute a general investigation of both the rail and truck rates on fresh meats and packing-house products and to correlate such rates to those on livestock from origins in the Western Trunk Line territory, and from Chicago to destinations east of Chicago. The Commission denied the petition, stating that it was not convinced that a general investigation was warranted.

Rates on Livestock From Montana to California Condemned

The Interstate Commerce Commission in No. 27214 (Los Angeles Union

Stock Yards Co., et al. v. C., M., St. P. & P., et al.) condemned the rates on livestock from points in Montana to destinations in California over routes through Butte and Silver Bow, Montana, as unreasonable where such routes are shorter, by more than 150 miles, than the shortest routes from and to the same points through Oregon, to the extent they exceeded or may exceed the rates prescribed in the western livestock case from and to the points concerned. The Commission awarded reparation accordingly. The new rates via Butte and Silver Bow are ordered to be established not later than July 22.

From the same Montana points to points in Nevada, the Commission found the rates not shown to be unreasonable.

Livestock Loading and Unloading Legislation

Certain stockyards companies have caused to be introduced in Congress S. 2129 and H. R. 6181, which, if enacted into law, would transfer jurisdiction over loading and unloading charges on livestock originating at or destined to public stockyards, from the Interstate Commerce Commission to the Department of Agriculture. Said bills are opposed to the best interests of the livestock producers. Under the system of rates and rate-making in the United States, the rates and charges in effect include the services of receiving and delivering property, including livestock. However, for many years charges in addition to the line-haul rates were assessed on livestock originating at or destined to public stockyards. Thus, the shipping public was subjected to dual charges for such services. Consequently, the American National Live Stock Association, about 1919, was successful in securing the passage by Congress of section 15(5) to the Interstate Commerce Act, which, briefly stated, pro-

vides that transportation by railroad of ordinary livestock, in carloads, destined to or originating at public stockyards shall include all necessary service of unloading and reloading enroute, delivery at such stockyards of inbound shipments into suitable pens and receipt and loading at such yards of outbound shipments, without extra charge therefor to the shipper, with minor exceptions not material here. Under this provision of law, the rates to or from public stockyards now in effect on livestock include the services of unloading and reloading enroute and at point of origin and destination, and the Interstate Commerce Commission has jurisdiction thereover.

The proposed bills would, if enacted into law, nullify the provisions of section 15(5) or at least result in conflict of jurisdiction and the laws administered by the Commission and the Department of Agriculture. Hence, they should be defeated.

Commission Suspends Rail and Truck Rates

The railroads and the motor carriers serving California, Arizona, New Mexico, and El Paso, Texas, published, generally speaking, the same basis of class rates to become effective May 1 between interstate points in the states named. At the present time the rates of both sets of carriers are what are commonly known as "all freight" commodity rates. The class rates specified by them would result in increases of 15, 30, and 45 per cent in the present rates on articles rated third, second and first class, respectively, with minor increases and reductions on fourth-class commodities. The El Paso Freight Bureau and Chamber of Commerce filed forceful petition with the Interstate Commerce Commission for suspension of the proposed rates. The Arizona Corporation Commission, Arizona Cattle Growers Association, Arizona Wool Growers Association, Arizona Farm Bureau Federation, Central Arizona Cattle Feeders Association, and Merchants & Manufacturers Association joined in the petition of the El Paso interests.

The rail carriers in 1931 established and have subsequently maintained all freight commodity carload rates from points in southern California to Phoenix, Arizona. These rates were originally published for a six-month period, but the expiration date thereof has been extended from time to time, but would have expired April 30. The Arizona Corporation Commission requested the Interstate Commerce Commission to suspend the expiration date and the other Arizona interests above named joined therein.

We are informed that the Commission has granted the requests for suspension of all of the rates covered by the foregoing petitions; however, at the time this is written we have not received the formal orders of the Commission.

The action of the carriers in publishing the same set of rates for rail and truck transportation is contrary

to the spirit and the letter of the law. When the Motor Carrier Act, 1935, was being debated in the Congress, Chairman Wheeler (79 Cong. Rec. 5735) stated:

There has been propaganda by some who do not want any regulation to the effect that this bill would cause an increase of rates up to the standard of the railroad rates. That contention is not based upon any fact, but is based upon pure propaganda, in my judgment, and is without foundation.

Coordinator Eastman has suggested—and we have written the suggestion into this bill specifically—that bus and truck operations should be viewed by the Commission in the peculiar light of their particular business, and that railroad rates should not be the yardstick for the rates which should be established for bus and truck operators.

Thus, it is clear Congress provided that truck rates should be predicated upon the cost of performing the service plus a reasonable profit, as distinguished from using the rail rates as a yardstick.

U. S. Sheep Inventory

THE sheep population of the United States on January 1, 1936 and 1937, as estimated by the Department of Agriculture, is presented in the following table by areas and for individ-

ual western states. This table usually appears each year in the March issue of the Wool Grower, but the detail by states for the 1937 inventory has just recently become available, which accounts for its late appearance.

Sheep Population as of January 1, 1936, and 1937

STATE	All Sheep and Lambs		Per Cent Change
	1936	1937	
Iowa	1,713,000	1,576,000	- 8
Michigan	1,306,000	1,315,000	+ 1
Minnesota	1,181,000	1,350,000	+14
Missouri	1,386,000	1,373,000	- 1
Ohio	2,564,000	2,464,000	- 4
South Dakota	1,559,000	1,316,000	-16
Other 30 Native States	9,417,000	8,707,000	- 8
TOTAL NATIVE STATES	19,126,000	18,101,000	- 6
Arizona	855,000	837,000	- 2
California	3,522,000	3,789,000	+ 8
Colorado	2,904,000	2,717,000	- 6
Idaho	2,274,000	2,378,000	+ 5
Montana	3,540,000	3,217,000	- 9
Nevada	882,000	820,000	- 7
New Mexico	2,450,000	2,477,000	+ 1
Oregon	2,290,000	2,335,000	+ 2
Texas	7,359,000	8,920,000	+21
Utah	2,523,000	2,746,000	+ 9
Washington	707,000	706,000	0
Wyoming	3,590,000	3,533,000	- 2
TOTAL WESTERN STATES	32,896,000	34,475,000	+ 4
TOTAL UNITED STATES	52,022,000	52,576,000	+ 1.1

With the

WOMEN'S AUXILIARIES

IDAHO

Idaho Falls

THE Idaho Falls Women's Auxiliary to the Idaho Wool Growers Association met at the home of Mrs. Hays Edwards, in Idaho Falls, on April 7, 1937. There were 16 members present at the meeting, at which Mrs. Wallace Frew, President, presided. Previous to the business meeting, a luncheon was enjoyed at the Tostwich Shop.

The regular business routine was followed by a report on the convention of State Parent-Teachers Association held here April 1, 2, and 3. This report was given by Mrs. J. L. Telford, one of our members, who is a state officer in this organization. The principal theme of her address was building character in children.

The Chapter is working on quilts composed of woolen pieces, each lady donating as many pieces as possible. We hope to be able to begin making toy woolen dogs at our next meeting.

Last month we had an electric oven demonstration given by a representative of the Utah Power & Light Company, which was very helpful to all present.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. James Laird, on May 5, 1937.

Mrs. H. C. Frew,
Secretary

WASHINGTON

Yakima

THE Women's Auxiliary to the Yakima Wool Growers Association met at the home of Mrs. Frank Fairchild, in Yakima, April 23, 1937, with Mrs. Wm. Watt, in charge. Fourteen members and one visitor were present.

A delicious luncheon was served and the color scheme of yellow and white was carried out throughout. Mrs. E. K. Foltz demonstrated a lamb luncheon dish.



Mrs. W. P. Mahoney, President
Women's Auxiliary to the National
Wool Growers Association

Greetings From New Auxiliary President

My seeming lateness in sending a message to the members of the Women's Auxiliary to the National Wool Growers Association is explained by the fact that greetings sent earlier were lost in the mail.

I thank you for the honor you have conferred upon me and hope we may work together for the growth of the organization.

Being an Auxiliary means we must help our men's organization, so let us find out the ways in which we can assist, as such ways are ever changing. We must be on our toes.

Our most important work lies in advertising lamb and wool. Then the social side of our organization must not be lost sight of.

If any one of you has anything to offer in the way of suggestions for greater assistance to the industry, the official board will be glad to hear from you.

Mrs. W. P. Mahoney,
National President

Material for this department should be sent to:

Mrs. Emory C. Smith,
National Press Correspondent,
Fruitland, Utah.

The Auxiliary page from the Wool Grower was read by Mrs. S. O. Stewart, and "Sheep Bought It," from the Saturday Evening Post, was read by Mrs. Archie Prior.

It is planned to have the Chapter sell woolen blankets, batts, and yarn and operate a lamb-burger sandwich booth during the State Fair. This project, of course, will have the two-fold purpose of acquainting visitors with products of the industry and of raising finances.

Mrs. William Watt was chosen to act as a delegate to the state executive meeting in Pasco, Washington, on May 15.

Mrs. Archie M. Prior,
Secretary

OREGON

Baker Chapter No. 2

THE Baker Chapter No. 2 of the Women's Auxiliary to the Oregon Wool Growers met April 14, 1937, with Mrs. R. Brown and Mrs. Wayne Phillips hostesses of the day. Three visitors and two new members brought the total attendance to 17. It is very encouraging to have the two new members and the officers of the Chapter are to be congratulated for stimulating the membership.

Entertainment as furnished by Mrs. Fred Phillips, Mrs. Fred Widmer, Mrs. Gordon Ragsdale, Mrs. Orin Hutton and Mrs. Rosco Brown won prizes and the attendance prize was won by Mrs. Gordon Ragsdale.

The Chapter is at present working on a quilt of silk pieces, which, when completed, will be disposed of to raise funds for the Auxiliary.

An April Fool's Day dance was given by the Chapter.

Mrs. Louis Osborn,
Secretary

Malheur County

THE Malheur County Women's Auxiliary to the Oregon Wool Growers Association met on Tuesday,

April 13, 1937, at the home of Mrs. F. S. Bailey, with ten members and two visitors present.

Plans were made for a Lamb Cooking School to be held on April 28, with the assistance of the Idaho Power Company. The demonstrations will be made by Miss Margaret Mathews, Home Demonstrator for the Idaho Power Company, and the advertising is to be put over by the Auxiliary. Lamp recipe books will be distributed by them.

We feel a project such as this will stimulate the use of lamb in the diet through the broader knowledge of proper and tasteful ways of cooking and it is our aim to foster anything that will be of benefit to the industry.

The next meeting will be held in Juntura, on May 12, 1937.

Mrs. F. W. Trenkel,
Cor.-Secretary

UTAH Ashley

THE Ashley Wool Growers Auxiliary met at the home of Mrs. B. H. Stringham in Vernal, Utah, on March 29, 1937, for another interesting and educational meeting. Two visitors and two new members were present, making a total of 16 guests.

Assisting Mrs. Stringham as hostess was Mrs. Harold Reader, and at the close of the meeting these ladies served a tasty tray luncheon.

Mrs. B. H. Stringham, President, presided at the meeting and an interesting program was carried out. Mrs. Effie Barrows of the Utah Agricultural College Extension Division gave a very interesting demonstration of the making of rugs from raw wool. The wool is washed, dyed, and rolled into strands, and then hooked into many beautiful and varied designs for practical rugs.

The members were all urged to make a wool dress and at the next meeting, Miss Hortense Snow of the Utah Agricultural College will give instructions in the making of woolen dresses.

A great deal of interest in the meetings and organization is being shown

by all members, to the satisfaction of those at the head.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Ethel Martin.

Mrs. Adair Tyzack,
Secretary

Salt Lake

THE eighth regular monthly meeting of the Salt Lake Auxiliary to the Utah Wool Growers Association was held Monday, April 12, 1937, at the Newhouse Hotel. At one o'clock a delicious luncheon was served in the Ivory Room to 35 members and guests.

Mrs. J. A. Hooper was in charge of arrangements, and Mrs. J. R. Eliason, the program. Jed Wooley and William Wooley, accompanied by their sister, Avel Wooley, played a violin duet, followed by solos by each of the brothers accompanied by their sister. This music was furnished through the courtesy of the Salt Lake Music Council.

Mrs. J. H. Manderfield spoke of the Municipal Rose Garden Project to be undertaken by the various clubs of the city, stating that the Salt Lake Auxiliary had been invited to participate in this project by the purchase of at least a dozen rose bushes of a designated color, for planting in this garden.

Mrs. Julian Neff, President, displayed a beautiful blanket donated to the organization by the Baron Woolen Mills of Brigham City, and asked what method of disposing of it should be followed to raise funds for the treasury. The blanket was raffled off, Mrs. George Crawford being the holder of the lucky number, and the treasury was considerably richer from the sale of it.

Mrs. Lucy B. Seely gave an interesting account of the last meeting and current activities of the Salt Lake Council of Women.

Mrs. Royal Smith gave a report on the Salt Lake Music Council, stating that the first unit of the Music Circulating Library will be opened during Music Week with a series of teas. This unit is to be located at the Bryant Junior High School.

Mrs. M. A. Smith, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, gave her report on the names to be voted upon for the officers for the coming year.

Beautiful corsages of roses were presented to Mrs. Neff and Mrs. Seely, president and vice-president, respectively, for their services during the past year. A few words of thanks and response were given by each of the recipients.

Mrs. Emory C. Smith,
Secretary.

Continuous Grazing Preferred, Usually, to Alternate Grazing

IT'S a tough job to keep a pasture and graze it too, but forage and beef specialists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture find after six years of research that continuous grazing is better and less expensive than alternate grazing on most pastures. Results of the experiment, conducted at the National Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Md., apply generally to the middle Atlantic and eastern corn belt states.

Three pastures were used. Average yearly gains for the pasture grazed continuously and lightly, one animal for two acres, were 287 pounds per animal. Average gains for the pasture grazed continuously and heavily, one animal per acre, were 196 pounds per animal. Average gains for the third pasture, divided into two sections, each grazed alternately for three week periods, one animal per acre, were 194 pounds per animal. Thus alternate grazing gives no extra returns, although requiring additional expense in fences and management.

Either light or heavy continuous grazing may be adaptable to one farm and not to another. For the farmer who has several head of cattle and little pasture, heavy continuous grazing is favored. By this method the annual gain per acre for the six-year period was 196 pounds compared to 145 pounds per acre when only one animal grazed two acres.

Excise Duty on Meats

WORD received from Washington on May 4 at the office of the National Wool Growers Association is to the effect that an organized movement of livestock interests of the central states is being made to secure special taxes on imported meats.

The movement is being led by hog raisers who are up in arms over the increasing imports of ham and bacon from Poland and other European countries. While the United States has always been regarded as the world's leader in the production of pork, it is surprising to find that in February of this year, over four and one half million pounds of pork products came in under the present duty. During 1936, imported pork products totaled 29 million pounds.

Western cattlemen are joining the movement in an effort to secure additional duty on canned beef, which is largely imported from South American countries. Eighty-eight million pounds of canned beef were brought into this country last year, and in February of this year, the amount was three and one half million pounds. Those back of this movement expect to present a bill in Congress to provide for additional levies on imported meats in the form of excise taxes in the amount of 3 cents per pound on fresh and cured pork, 6 cents per pound on canned pork, and 3 cents per pound on canned beef.

Last year the National Wool Growers Association supported the request of the American National Live Stock Association for an investigation of the duty on canned beef to be made by the United States Tariff Commission. That Commission, however, declined to take any action. Cattle raisers have been complaining bitterly during recent years over the fact that under the present duties, beef in cans pays only the same duty as carcass beef. A pound of canned beef is about the equivalent of two pounds of carcass beef owing to the fact that all bones and other waste parts are eliminated in the canning process. Logically, the duty on canned meats should be twice what it

is on carcass meat. It is in an effort to correct this situation that the cattle interests are renewing the attempt to secure more adequate protection from the effects upon markets of imported beef. Imports of canned beef in 1936 were equivalent to over 200,000 head of cattle.

Wool Market Report for May 7

(By U. S. Department of Agriculture)

NEW business on domestic wools in the Boston market was very quiet. The principal activity consisted of the delivery of the contracted wool which had previously been sold to mill buyers subject to approval upon arrival. The new wools being delivered apparently were sufficient to cover the current needs of mills as buyers were showing very little interest in the spot wools offered for sale.

Fleece wools were very quiet and quotations sagged as Boston houses made concessions in an effort to find price levels attractive to buyers. A few small lots of fine Ohio Delaine were sold at 42-43 cents in the grease for the heavier shrinking, less attractive lines, although the best wools were held at 44 cents. Combing Ohio fleeces were available in some houses at 45 cents in the grease for combing three-eighths and quarter-blood grades.

Because of the fact that contracted wools from the western states were arriving and being delivered at prices below asking prices on spot wools, unsold territory and Texas wools in Boston were very quiet. Bulk fine spot territory wools in original bags were held mostly at \$1@1.05; scoured basis, depending upon length and character, while the new wools being delivered were costing buyers mostly 95 cents @ \$1, scoured basis. Spot twelve months' Texas wools were held at around \$1.05, scoured basis, for choice clips and at around \$1.02@1.03 for average wools, but the contracted wools that were arriving were being turned over to buyers at the prices previously agreed upon at levels mostly under \$1, scoured basis. Upon arrival of mixed

clips of new territory wools, several Boston houses named lower prices on graded wools than had been quoted when the market supply was confined to limited quantities of old wools.

Very little business was being transacted in mohair. An occasional small lot of original adult Texas mohair was being sold for filling in purposes at around 73@75 cents. Sorted mohair and mohair tops were slow but firmly quoted at unchanged prices.

May 7 Quoted Prices

	Graded Wools / Scoured Basis	
	Territory	Fleece
Fine combing (staple)	\$1.08-1.10	\$1.05-1.10
Fine French combing	1.03-1.05	.97-1.02
Fine clothing	.95- .98	.93- .95
1/2 blood combing (staple)	1.03-1.05	1.02-1.05
1/2 blood French combing	.98-1.02	.96-1.00
1/2 blood clothing	.94- .96	.92- .95
3/8 blood combing	.92- .96	.85- .90
3/8 blood clothing	.83- .88	.79- .82
1/4 blood combing	.83- .87	.79- .82
Low 1/4 blood	.75- .77	.73- .75
Common and braid	.70- .73	.69- .71

Correction

MR. E. A. BEILFUS of the Chicago Producers Commission Association has called our attention to an error made in reporting the increased commission rates at Chicago in the April issue of the National Wool Grower (page 8).

With the new rates, which were authorized by the Secretary of Agriculture to become effective April 1, there was set up for comparison, in the Wool Grower report, the rates which they superseded. The rate that formerly applied on the first ten in each 300 head was listed as 20 cents, whereas it should have been given as 25 cents. This rate was increased to 26 cents in the new schedule.

The only other increase in the sheep rates is that from 15 to 16 cents for the "next 50 head in each 300 head." Under these two advances the rate for a car of 250 head is \$16.20 as against the former charge of \$15.60. The new rates will be most burdensome on the men who ship small lots, as the 60-cent increase on a carlot of 250 head also falls on a lot of 60 head.

THE LAMB MARKETS

Denver

FAT lamb prices were rather uneven during the month of April. Late month declines carried values to around a dime to 25 cents lower than at the beginning of the month. The market, however, was active and buyers took everything offered at Denver readily.

Receipts were somewhat lighter in April this year as compared to last, reflecting the shorter supply in the feed lots of the northern Colorado area. Total receipts for the month were 198,000 head compared to 248,750 received at Denver during April of 1936.

Good fat lambs were selling early in April around \$12 to \$12.25, freight paid to river, with a fair grade from \$11.50 to \$12. In the second week the market went up to \$12.75 for a peak while during the third week of the month, best fat Colorados brought \$13, freight paid to river, equaling the top prices made some weeks before. Sharp declines later in April brought best lambs to around \$12.15, freight paid to river, at the close with the bulk of the good kinds selling from this price down to \$11.75.

Spring lambs were rather scarce and only a few shipments were received. California and Arizona spring lambs sold from \$12 to \$13 while scattering lots of native springers crossed the scales at about the same range of values.

A few odd loads of New Mexico feeder lambs sold up to \$10.25 while scattering lots of natives went from \$9 to \$10 with some common loads from \$7.25 to \$9.

Very few fat ewes arrived but demand was not urgent. A few odd choice ewes sold up to \$7 during the high time of the month but not many went above \$6.75 and most of the ewes received sold in a range from \$5 to \$6.50.

Inquiry continued strong at Denver and all stock received here found

ready outlet. Eastern packer representatives were particularly active and a large number of the good fat lambs received here during the month went to points all the way from Iowa and Minnesota to the Atlantic seaboard for slaughter.

The northern Colorado feed lots and those of the North Platte Valley in Nebraska and the Arkansas Valley in southern Colorado are practically cleaned of the season's supply. Scattering shipments are expected from these areas but the great bulk of the lambs fed there have been disposed of. Denver buyers and those from other sections stationed here are expecting California, Arizona, Idaho, Oregon and other spring lamb producing areas to supply the demand during the next few weeks.

W. N. Fulton

Kansas City

THE sheep and lamb market on the April close was lower than the March close. The net decline in wool lambs was 60 cents, in shorn lambs and yearlings 50 cents, ewes \$1 and spring lambs 50 to 75 cents. Compared with the high point of the month, final quotations were off 60 cents to \$1. However, late in the month quality and condition of the offerings took a decided slump and on that basis the actual decline was negligible. Most of the winter fed wool lambs shown this week were the final shipments, many of them with broken and stringy fleeces; the shorn lamb offerings were at or over the yearling age but still able to hold in the "breaker" class and new crop lambs, in many instances, showed that they had been shorted on milk owing to drying ranges. All these things considered, the late April offerings sold relatively as well as they would have done at any time during the month.

April is always a "split-up month," when new crop lambs augment the clean-up of winter fed lambs and fed lambs come in fleece and out of fleece. Also the supply of mutton classes increases and shorn lambs usually carry yearling markings. This mixed situation naturally tends to create unevenness in prices. Where straight feed-lot cuts of lambs with wool in good condition and weights not too extreme were offered they sold at close to the high point of the month, but killers were eager to seize on anything that showed an off condition as a factor in reducing prices.

Notwithstanding the changing conditions, April made as high an average on fed wool lambs as March. New crop lambs showed a slightly lower average and shorn lambs were forced lower owing to age condition. March closed with best wool lambs selling at \$12.60. April started with a 25-cent break to reduce the top to \$12.35 and by the 7th sales were made at \$11.90 down. Then the market strengthened and by the 19th best brought \$12.85 and during the following week there were 25 to 50-cent fluctuations that saw the top move between \$12.50 to \$12.75. By the close of the month choice lambs had settled back to \$12.

Shorn lambs during the first half of the month sold within a range of \$9.50 to \$10.50, mostly \$10.25 down, until near the close when \$10 was the limit, to make a net loss from March of 50 cents. Since the middle of April most of the shorn lambs showed Texas and New Mexico origin.

New crop lambs were in fairly liberal supply. They came from Arizona and Texas with a few natives thrown in. Until late in the month the prevailing price range on spring lambs was \$12.50 to \$13, but later the market

ceased off to \$12.25 down, with \$11.50 and \$11.85 taking a good many consignments. During the middle of the month wool lambs and springs sold at practically the same price range, but on the close new crop offerings were at a slight premium.

The crop of yearlings was confined to a few scattered bunches so that no fair test to values was effected. Early in April the market for wool ewes was \$7 to \$7.50, but shorn ewes, which began to move in considerable volume at \$6.50, soon slumped to \$5.25 down and pulled prices for wool ewes to \$6.25 and under. With the Texas movement of sheep getting under way, the supply of mature mutton classes for May will be materially increased.

The outstanding feature in the lamb market the past four months has been the heavy average weight of the offerings. Very few fed lambs were offered under the 90-pound mark and 92 to 95 pounds bulked the supply. Many lambs weighed above 100 pounds and some as much as 115 pounds. Of course, the extreme heavy weights drew some price discrimination, but as a rule weight was of no material consequence in the price-making. Western feeders did a remarkably good feeding job the past winter and prices evidently were high enough to bring moderate profits.

The new crop season just getting under way shows a mixed situation. In the early lamb belt range and feed conditions have been backward. In some sections lamb losses have been large. In others ranges got off to a good start and then dried up quickly so that lamb growth was retarded. In most of the corn belt the crop will not round into condition before June. Texas reports fairly good ranges in the sheep belt and that area will have the largest market supplies in several years. Fort Worth in the last two weeks in April received more ovine stock than any other market and May receipts at that point probably will be of record volume. In the corn belt spring prospects for crops are the most promising in a number of years. If the central sections of the United

States mature normal feed crops this year demand for feeding lambs will be large.

April receipts in Kansas City were 157,871, compared with 128,060 in the same month last year, an increase of 29,811, but short of the average April of the past five years. However, in view of the adverse feed situation this supply was larger than had been anticipated. Arrivals for the four months were 572,832, compared with 460,065 in the same period of 1936.

C. M. Pipkin.

St. Joseph

SHEEP receipts for the month of April were 119,865, which was about 1,700 more than March, but 1,600 less than April last year. Of the month's total 47,794 came from Nebraska feed lots, 41,057 from Colorado, 10,798 from Texas and New Mexico, 3,281 from California and Arizona, and a small number from the other feeding districts.

The lamb market during the month was very uneven. The closing top for March was \$12.65. By the end of the first week in April it had dropped to \$12, when prices again started upward, reaching a top of \$13 on the 19th, after which the market was mostly on the down grade, and the top on the extreme close was \$12.25 with very few choice lambs arriving. Spring lambs were very scarce during the month, a few natives selling up to \$12.35 on the close. A few shipments of Arizonas during the month sold \$11.50@12.75. Choice shorn lambs were quoted around \$10 on the close. Aged sheep were scarce the latter part of the month and closing prices are lower. Choice woolled ewes are quoted around \$6 and clips \$4.75@5. Choice yearlings quoted \$11@11.25, two-year-olds \$10@10.25, and old wethers \$7@7.50.

H. H. Madden

Omaha

EVERYTHING considered, the Omaha sheep market provided a satisfactory outlet for feeders during the month of April. Receipts for the month showed a sharp increase over the same month a year ago, being 145,141 head as against 118,842. However, the number fell short of the 157,258 head recorded here during April of 1935.

Sagging prices during the closing days of April forced values 40@50 cents below the prevailing levels at the close of the previous period. As the month ended, top on fed woolies stood at \$12.25 while similar shorn kinds sold to \$10.25.

Prices fluctuated within a dollar range during April, top rates moving between \$12 and \$13, latter price paid only one day near the middle of the month. From then on the general trend was downward. The heavy influx of lambs on southern markets, coupled with plentiful supplies at corn belt markets, was a bearish factor in the trade. Eastern markets found it difficult to move the increased supply except at lower levels and this was naturally reflected in the prices paid for stock locally.

The market continued to be dominated by fed woolled lambs, chiefly from Colorado, Wyoming, and western Nebraska, since the cold wet weather and the wide spread between payments for woolled and clipped stock were not conducive to shearing. Many of the arrivals during the latter half of the month were very much on a plain order, being largely clean-up shipments, indicating the end of the feeding season of old crop lambs.

Spring lambs were marketed only in negligible numbers. Natives appeared in scattered bunches, which at the best time sold at \$13.50. The few shipments of new crop lambs that arrived from California were insufficient to test the market.

Only 6,809 head went out to feed lots, mostly for shearing purposes. Prices for unfinished stock held well

(Continued on Page 34)

Congress Discusses Wool Research

(Continued from page 11)

Mr. GREEVER. Yes; it belongs to the sheep growers of the country, and they want it expended for some purpose that will be of value to them, which is not the case at the present time.

The CHAIRMAN. The time of the gentleman from Wyoming has expired.

Mr. TARVER. Mr. Chairman, of course, nobody knows to whom this money belongs. If they did, the Government would pay it back to them.

Mr. SOUTH. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. TARVER. Not at this time; I shall later if I have the time. I do not agree with the chairman of our subcommittee with regard to the work being done under this appropriation not being of sufficient importance to justify the expenditure of money out of the Treasury.

Mr. CANNON of Missouri. Mr. Chairman, if the gentleman will permit, my statement was that in the judgment of the Department of Agriculture it was not of sufficient importance. The Agricultural Department did not recommend it. I did not state it as the opinion of the chairman of the committee, but as the opinion of the Department of Agriculture.

Mr. SOUTH. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield, having yielded to the gentleman from Missouri?

Mr. TARVER. I cannot yield now. I have some things to say and it will be impossible to yield until I can make my statement. I am glad that I am differing with the judgment of the Department of Agriculture instead of the judgment of the distinguished chairman of the subcommittee. I do consider this work as being of as much importance to the wool industry as similar work being done for cotton is important to the cotton growers, and that an appropriation from the Treasury is as much justified for the one purpose as the other. The complaint I have to make about the gentleman's amendment is that it is not founded on adequate information showing its necessity.

If gentlemen will notice the next page of the bill, they will see that we have added to the appropriation for home economics investigation to the amount of \$6,000, the designated purpose of which is to make investigations in the utilization of wool. I do not know whether the attention of my colleagues has been called to that or not, but whether it has or not, no official of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics appeared before our committee and called our attention by one single word to any necessity for an increase of a single dollar to this appropriation in order to adequately carry out the purposes of Congress. No break-down has been furnished our committee by anybody.

Mr. SOUTH. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. TARVER. I cannot yield at this point.

No break-down has been furnished showing how this money is to be expended if Congress should decide to grant it, or what additional Federal employees are to be selected, or how much they are to be paid. Of course, if you double the appropriation practically all of it will go to the hiring of additional Federal employees; to do what? Nobody knows. Our colleagues who appeared before our subcommittee did not know.

Mr. SOUTH. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. TARVER. I cannot yield.

Mr. SOUTH. I will tell the gentleman if he will give me a chance.

Mr. TARVER. My colleague is mistaken, because I have just reread his evidence, and the information to which I have made reference is a break-down for the new personnel who are to be employed and the salaries that are to be paid them—information that we always have in connection with appropriations of this sort. That has not been furnished by the Department. We would be acting in the dark in undertaking to double this appropriation out of money, whether it belongs to the Government or belongs to some unknown persons who have not reclaimed it, without knowing in detail how and for what purpose that money

is to be expended. If there should be an increase in this appropriation, then these gentlemen who are interested should wait until the bill reaches the Senate and endeavor to furnish the Senate committee with the information which was not furnished our committee, so that they can act intelligently in passing on the question.

Mr. SOUTH. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. TARVER. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. SOUTH. I will ask the gentleman if I did not say in my statement before the committee that a man who was an expert in the wool business was now in Texas visiting the shipping pens, making inspections, and so forth, and that this additional money was needed in order for that work to be carried on?

Mr. TARVER. Certainly; but my colleague certainly realizes that that is not furnishing a break-down as to additional personnel that you intend to employ if you get this money?

The CHAIRMAN. The time of the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. Tarver] has expired.

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike out the last two words.

Mr. Chairman, the state from which I come I understand is the second largest wool-growing state east of the Mississippi River. To realize the importance of this wool industry we need only refer back to the Indian reservations of the West and the Northwest where you get down to primitive life, where they live off of the meat of the sheep and clothe themselves with the wool off of its back. Here we have a situation where the growing of wool fiber is one of the most important agricultural activities in the United States. At the same time anyone who has never looked into the marketing of wool will find, if he will just take a wool contract which is offered to the wool growers of this country, one of which I hold in my hand, and analyze it carefully and then go into the bulletins which have been issued by the Department of Agriculture with reference to the technicalities that the wool grower is up against when he starts to put his wool on the market, that the plea of the gentleman from Texas [Mr. South] and the gentleman from Wyoming [Mr. Greever] and the gentleman from Michigan has some substance to it. It is about time this Congress began to take action toward putting the farmer of this country in a position to technically know how to market the products that come from his soil. We can legislate until doomsday, but as long as we leave it so that the organized industries who sit on the opposite side of the table from the American farmer and hold all the cards up their sleeve, and who know all the technical information which the farmer is without as regards wool, for instance, as to what causes shrinkage and how much shrinkage occurs, the farmer will always get the worst of it. When you realize that situation, you begin to appreciate how valuable this survey and this study would be for the wool growers of the United States.

Mr. SOUTH. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. CRAWFORD. I yield.

Mr. SOUTH. I will ask the gentleman if it is not a fact that this same committee which is talking about economy—and I believe in economy and I am willing to vote decreases in appropriations when it is proper—has recommended the expenditure of \$421,720 for the Dutch elm disease—a tree that has no commercial value; and if it is not a fact that from 1934 to 1938 there will have been spent more than \$8,000,000 trying to eradicate the Dutch elm disease, which they know nothing about, while the sheep industry, representing hundreds of millions of dollars, an industry out of which people make a living, is being denied \$24,000 of their own money?

Mr. CRAWFORD. I think that is correct, in line with the bill that is before us.

Here is a bulletin which I have obtained from the Department within the last few days. The Department itself is without information on this technical subject about which we are talking. They say:

"Originally wool from many of our Western States is estimated to have an average shrinkage of from 62 to 65 per cent."

Assuming that these estimates are correct—they even have to make these estimates in order to get out a bulletin. The wool grower is totally dependent on the rigging and flim-flamming which the wool market of Boston operates against him at all times. With all of this money the Department of Agriculture is spending the American farmer should be kept technically informed of all market tricks participated in by the processors of the country. All purchase contracts that cover large and important cash crops, such as wool, mohair, sugar, vegetables, and so forth, should be gathered in by the Department, carefully analyzed, and then explained and unfolded to the interested farm group, to the end that chiseling clauses of every kind would be understood by the individual farmer and those upon whom he depends to market his products. Such an activity would pay tremendous dividends.

Mr. GREEVER. Is it not a fact that the wool grower is entirely at the mercy of the Boston buyer?

Mr. CRAWFORD. Entirely so; and all you need do is to refer to a wool contract. I hold one in my hand. This is not fictitious; this is a bona-fide contract. Many others like it are being made. You can get them from any of the wool departments and see what the growers are up against.

Mr. SOUTH. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. CRAWFORD. Yes.

Mr. SOUTH. Is it not a fact that the Bureau of Agricultural Economics now have the machinery and the men to carry on the work, and that this additional amount of only \$24,000 will be used probably without employing any additional men, or, if any are employed, not more than one of two?

Mr. CRAWFORD. I think that is correct and in line with the facts.

[Here the gavel fell.]

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment of the gentleman from Texas.

The question was taken; and on a division (demanded by Mr. Cannon of Missouri) there were—ayes 62, noes, 9.

So the amendment was agreed to.

California Ram Sale This Month

THE 17th Annual California Ram Sale will be held at the State Fair Grounds, Sacramento, California, on Thursday and Friday, May 27 and 28, 1937.

Colonel A. W. Thompson of Lincoln, Nebraska, will be the auctioneer.

There will be over 1800 rams offered for sale; also 300 purebred ewes. The rams and ewes will be consigned to the sale from the leading purebred flocks of the far West. There will be Hampshires, Suffolks, Shropshires, Southdowns, Rambouillets, Romeldales, Corriedales, Dorsets, Romneys and several of the popular crossbreds from the foremost flocks in California, Oregon, Montana, Nevada, Wyoming and Canada.

In connection with the ram sale is held the Annual California Wool Show, which this year will be the largest in its history.

The Junior Division of the Wool Show is attracting wide attention.

This is the only wool show of its kind in the United States wherein the show management agrees to make a careful estimate of each fleece exhibited as to the grade, shrinkage, quality and weight of wool.

Hundreds of dollars in cash prizes, valuable merchandise prizes and trophy cups will be awarded to the winners, and in the Junior Division of the

show, the management agrees to pay the exhibitors the full value of the wool based on the estimates placed by the wool judges.

The wool show is entirely educational in scope and has been very effective in bettering wool production in the western states.

Catalogue of the Ram Sale and Wool Show may be obtained by addressing the California Wool Growers Association, 595 Mission Street, San Francisco, California.

The California Ram Sale and Wool Show are under the management of the California Wool Growers Association, assisted by the University of California and the California State Department of Agriculture.

1937 Officers for Pacific Wool Growers

OFFICERS of Pacific Wool Growers for 1937 were selected at the April 2 meeting of the Board of Directors of the cooperative at Portland. Mr. J. T. Alexander of Chehalis, Washington, was reelected president; Dr. Edwin Bunnell of Willows, California, and R. A. Ward, vice-presidents; and C. E. Grelle of Ridgefield, Washington, secretary-treasurer. Mr. Ward continues as general manager.

The Board of Directors, elected at the regular annual membership meeting of the cooperative on March 15, is composed of J. T. Alexander, Che-

halis, Washington; Dr. Edwin Bunnell, Willows, California; R. L. Clark, N. Portland, Oregon; Carlyle C. Eubank, Ogden, Utah; R. G. Johnson, Corvallis, Oregon; F. A. Phillips, Keating, Oregon; D. E. Richards, Union, Oregon; L. A. Robertson, Garberville, California; G. A. Sander, Scio, Oregon; J. O. Sorenson, Ellensburg, Washington; Carl Whitmore, Joseph, Oregon; Jas. H. Day, Wellington, Nevada; and J. G. Barratt, Heppner, Oregon.


Sheepmen on Idaho Boards

RECENT appointments by Governor B. W. Clark of Idaho to fill vacancies on the State Sheep Commission Board have included A. H. Caine, who succeeds J. L. Driscoll, resigned, and J. E. Garner of Rexburg, who takes the place of Eph Ricks of Sugar City. Messrs. C. M. Clay and Andrew Little, who have served on the Sheep Commission since its inception, were continued as members by the Governor's reappointment.

Mr. D. Sid Smith, former president of the Idaho Wool Growers Association and well known for his interest and efforts on behalf of the sheep industry generally, was named by the Idaho Governor as a member of the State Cooperative Forestry Board.

The Governor's appointments were made upon recommendation of the stockmen of Idaho.

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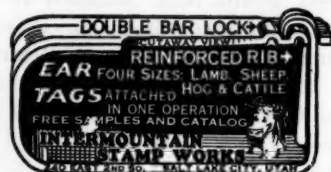
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The Lamb Markets

(Continued from Page 31)

in line with those received for fat offerings.

Since the marketing of fed ewes for the season was completed early in April, not enough aged sheep appeared on most days later to make a market. The trend in values, however, was downward, with best woolled ewes at the close selling to \$6 and clipped kinds to \$5.

Lester H. Hartwig

Chicago

TEXAS stepped into a threatened bare spot in supply of ovine product late in April, Fort Worth taking the lead temporarily at least. But for this timely accession lamb prices would have struck still higher levels on an impending advance that promised to establish new records for the season. As it is, a miniature boom folded, prices slumped \$1 per hundred or more, and meat distributive channels were again supplied.

Texas had been a threat over the market for weeks, rumors of gluts coming from that source when shearing made a movement possible. The run was delayed by necessity for shearing wool contracted earlier in the season. While awaiting that operation, the stock acquired condition, reaching Fort Worth ready for the butcher. During the third week of April over 90,000 head of last year's lambs, minus the wool, reached the Texas market to be forwarded east and replenish coolers. Costing \$9.35 to \$9.50 per hundred at the outset, prices declined to \$9@9.25 and killing gangs at the processing centers were put on full time. This accession actually averted a semi-famine in the dressed market, but arriving coincidentally with final shipments from the Colorado and Nebraska area, forced one of the severest breaks of the season. Texas product proved palatable, the market absorbing it readily.

At the termination of a fairly prosperous winter feeding season, market

atmosphere is fairly satisfactory. Killers have made money, feeders who were able to avoid the midwinter debacle have recovered their capital plus a feed bill that promised to be onerous, and an era of good feeling prevails. A short supply from California was a price-maintaining influence and as southern lambs, the Kentucky and Tennessee contribution, will be late, continuance of healthy markets is assured. Western lambs, in dribbles, will break into the scene along in June, but every pound of the product will be wanted. Later, when the main column of Northwesterns comes a new price list will be made.

Frequent and wide fluctuations can be attributed only to an erratic dressed market, which has shown mutations of \$1 to \$2 per hundred weekly. Earlier in the season distributors resorted to the freezer for stabilization purposes, but later were more intent on cleaning up that accumulation before temperatures soared. At intervals western feeders, apprehensive of trouble when Texas threw its hat into the ring, resorted to crowding, with the inevitable result that of the three branches of livestock trade only ovine stock has run this erratic course. Cattle held a steady gait while hogs never were able to pay their board. All of which merely demonstrates that the lamb market is an independent affair.

Early May found the trade dependent to a large extent on Texas product, Colorado and Nebraska at the final stage of the season, the Middle South behind its schedule and the stage set for continuance of healthy markets, at least until new croppers report in sufficient numbers to exert a depressing influence. Killers will be on the alert to take off anywhere from 50 cents to \$1 per hundred whenever an opportunity offers, an attitude that promises continuance of wide fluctuations. During the May to July period light receipts are assured, volume depending largely on what Texas does. The Kentucky and Tennessee delegation, starting on a \$13 to \$13.50 basis, will not be large enough to inflict serious damage. Missouri, ordinarily a

generous contributor of early lambs, has been starved out by three years of continued drought, and from no other supply source is a price-breaking supply in sight. By the time northwestern range lambs are due, the stage will be set for a healthy trade.

Only in the farming area is a decided increase in lamb supply due this season. Everywhere the landscape is alive with them and they are being hand-tended. A large percentage of healthy lambs is reported from Iowa, Illinois, Indiana and Michigan, lamb money being depended on for tax payments. However, the great bulk of this stock will be widely distributed, trucks taking it to scores of slaughtering plants whence a large proportion of the product goes to small town markets. The main outlet for the bulk of commercial carcasses remains at the Atlantic seaboard.

Pelt values are a continued sustaining influence under the price list, accounting for the difference between prices this year and last. Killers are crediting buyers with \$3.50 to \$3.65 per hundred for wool and slats, which relieves the edible portion of a load it would otherwise be under the necessity of carrying. Killers are so anxious to pull wool that they have effectively discouraged feeders from shearing by penalizing clipped lambs \$2 per hundred.

A high spot was made at \$13.35 twice in April, during the third and final weeks, when \$13@13.25 bought the bulk of desirable wool lambs. But whenever the \$13 mark was reached, it heralded a slump. At the inception of the month \$12.60@12.85 took most of the desirable wool lambs, \$10.50@10.85 the shorn end, fall shorn lambs reaching \$11.25. On this basis prices held fairly steady for two weeks; \$12@12.50 took the bulk of wool lambs and \$10.50@11 a miniature supply without wool. During the week ending April 23 another spurt sent the bulk of wool lambs to \$13@13.25, from which elevation another abrupt slump occurred, the practical top sinking to \$12 and the bulk selling between that figure and \$11.75. When Texas spoke

its piece, values were weak on an \$11.50@12.25 basis.

But if the live market has been erratic, dressed trade has exceeded its vagaries although carcass prices have been maintained \$1.50 to \$2 per hundred above the corresponding period of 1936. At Chicago choice carcasses have wholesaled largely at \$20@21.50 per hundred; good, \$19@20.50; medium, \$17.50@19, and common, \$16.50@17.50. Big lambs, 100 to 105 pounds, were not penalized, distributive trade requiring a few heavy carcasses at all times. For common and medium carcasses a healthy constant demand kept the hang rail clear. Probably because the feed bill was high, killers had enough low grade meat to go around at all times, but that grade never accumulated.

Fat sheep trade was practically restricted to fat ewes that realized \$6@6.50 in the fleece, \$5 or less with the wool off. For a limited quantity of mutton, the market was fairly stable, \$8@10 taking the bulk of carcasses, grading common to choice. Rising temperatures broke the fat ewe market about \$1 per hundred.

Other than Californias, spring lambs were scarce. Most of the California pilgrims were direct to packers; on the market \$13.50 was paid for early arrivals. Later native springers realized \$13@15. Early lambs cost \$13.50 in Tennessee.

Shearers got few lambs as packers were always ready to take everything in the fleece, regardless of condition. A penalty of \$2 per hundred on shorn lambs effectively repressed activity in shearing circles. A few hundred went to Michigan at \$10@12.50.

Although the April supply carried a conspicuous top, toward the end of the season feed-lot tail ends showed up in profusion, selling as low as \$11.50. All things considered, especially the high feed bill, feeders did a good job, bulk of the supply grading good to choice.

A stout prop was put under the whole western lamb market by eastern demand. Invariably a 25 to 50-cent break developed when shipping orders

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were lacking. This factor was sensed late in the season when eastern feed lots had been depleted. As the situation worked out, those who cheated on the feed bill profited as the spread between finished lambs and those lacking that qualification was narrow.

Consensus of opinion in trade circles is that when the supply gap of May and June disappears, \$11.50 to \$12.50 will absorb the bulk of new crop lambs. Meanwhile fluctuations will be wide, the \$13 quotation showing persistency in reappearing whenever a short run develops and killers are under the necessity of buying for numbers. Lamb is essentially a fresh meat proposition and all meats that go to the consumer without cure are commanding high prices with the exception of veal, which is merely a temporary condition, due to disappear the moment the dairy crop has been liquidated. An \$8 to \$10 calf market is obviously out of line with \$12 to \$13 lambs, even when wool is reckoned with. But there is encouragement in the fact that short-fed steers are realizing as much as good lambs and that everything wearing a hide is \$1 to \$3 per hundred above the corresponding period of 1936. Hogs are an exception to the rule, low prices being attributed to continued heavy imports of Polish hams on a low tariff basis, but fresh pork is selling with the same celerity that other uncured meats move over the retailer's counter. Pork loins wholesale \$1 to \$2 above lambs.

Feeders are already manifesting an interest in prospective prices next fall. Expectancy is that the feeder end will be worth \$8 to \$8.50 per hundred on the range. Corn belt feeders have had a fairly profitable season; physical conditions all over the belt could not be improved, with the possible exception of the strip west of the Missouri River. And with practical assurance of both grain and roughage next winter, together with fall forage in abundance, there will be a place to put every thin western lamb available, although farmer feeders will not be in buying mood until September, when the corn outcome will clarify. In any

event the price of corn will decline sharply and an enormous quantity of soy beans will be garnered. If nature does its part, after making a creditable start, winter finishing operations will be on an extended scale from Iowa to Ohio. Stock cattle are high and will be, especially if corn breaks, and that market will reflect every phase of the growing crop.

Nothing comes out of Washington regarding the Argentine, or to be exact the Patagonian excursion. Doubtless the agreement has been sidetracked by other, and more important legislation, but unless the administration has charted a new course, it will come to the surface eventually, although probably not in time to affect the 1937 lamb supply.

J. E. Poole.

Ogden

WITH the close of April, records show that 380 decks of early spring lambs have moved through the Ogden stock yards and the annual trek of these lambs from the State of California to eastern points for slaughtering and feeding was definitely under way. These 380 decks represent 58,805 lambs, somewhat less than last year as the movement is much later getting started. This has been caused by cold weather as well as lack of rainfall in certain territories which resulted in the slow development of range grasses. This necessitated considerable feeding on the part of many growers at prices for hay which were higher than for many years. The result was that lambs arrived at the necessary shipping weight later in the season. Especially in the region of the Sacramento Valley were the effects of the lack of moisture and the cold snap felt and last reports were that only about a 60 per cent crop would be shipped from that region. The San Joaquin Valley region experienced about the same conditions as the year before and the crop is expected to come up to that of last year, while those lambs in the desert country are expected to be in better condition and in greater num-

bers than a year ago. About 50,000 head have moved out of California eastward to date, whereas over 100,000 had been shipped last year at this time.

A much higher percentage of the lambs received at Ogden were in the hands of packers than heretofore, 75 per cent of receipts from California being packer lambs and 25 per cent being in the hands of packers and 75 per cent belonging to sellers. Practically all of the early shipments were packers', whereas, at present writing about half of the shipments being received are unsold lambs. As other sections of the country where lambs are produced in quantity likewise experienced conditions which caused the spring crop to ripen late, and shortages developed in the outstanding winter feeding areas, packers found it necessary to assure themselves of a supply and this fact resulted in the much greater contracting of lambs on the Pacific Coast for early movement.

The condition and number of animals from the northwestern territory is as yet not known, and growers are confronted with a lambing season in which factors are not too favorable toward the production of a bumper crop. An unusually late season, as seems to be the popular trend for this year, has developed there as elsewhere. Snow, rain and cold weather have undoubtedly caused some losses among the new crop and also point to a later season than usual.

Prices have held up, reflecting the shortage of supply effected by the cleaning up of feed lots and late development of springers. Some southern Utah lambs went over the scales at 12 cents a hundredweight, being shipped to an interior packer for slaughter. Ewes were selling up to 5 cents at latest reports. Indications point toward increased activity in the lamb department within the next few days.

D. F. Estes

Western Lamb Contract Report

(Issued by Bureau of Agricultural Economics for Week Ended May 1, 1937)

IN California there was no improvement in feed and pasture conditions last week. Since very little precipitation fell and on account of drying ranges, buyers were very cautious in new purchases and spent the bulk of their time getting previous shipments loaded. Total movement to the Midwest and North approximated 700 single decks or 98,000 head, compared with 1,182 single decks or 174,000 head a year ago to May 2.

The bulk of the fat lambs in San Joaquin Valley have been received and shipped to the Midwest or slaughtered on the Pacific Coast. New contracts have been very limited since the supply is about exhausted. A few loads of feeder lambs secured \$8.75@9.25 per hundred.

In Sacramento Valley the feed situation is about the controlling factor here. A light rain last week was of very little benefit to ranges. Very little forward contracting has been in progress. On account of drying ranges, it is not unlikely that a broader buying movement will take place within the current week. For early May delivery, a few bands were bought straight across, fat and feeders mixed at \$10@10.50, some reaching \$11. Odd loads of straight feeders secured \$8.75@9.50 in some instances.

* * *

For the week ended April 24, the government report stated that several reports from Wyoming indicate that fall lambs had been contracted at \$7.75 to \$8 with the bulk anticipated in feeder condition.



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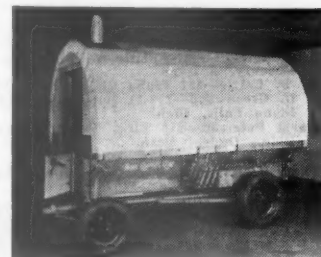
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The Coyote Problem

I HAVE been a reader of the Wool Grower for many years. I feel that the National Wool Growers Association has been the real savior of the sheepman. It has fought and won many battles that otherwise would have been lost. There is one thing I would like to have the association and its organ, the National Wool Grower, champion now, and that is the solution of the coyote problem.

Every year coyotes take a terrible toll. You might ask what can be done about it? Well, here is a suggestion, and to my mind it is the only thing that will effect the destruction of Mr. Coyote. It is a sensible, uniform national bounty. As the number gets smaller, as it surely will under such a plan, such a bounty could be increased to a point where it would behoove every one to carry a rifle. I should also like to see it work out so that the bounty could be collected without the necessity of going through so much red tape.

The average person has only a very hazy idea of the destruction wrought by the coyote. I firmly believe that in my locality they take a toll of at least 10 per cent of all lambs born, to say nothing about the loss they cause among old sheep and other farm animals and wild game. And the loss to the sheepman indirectly is even more costly than the direct loss. By this I mean that we are forced to close herd and drive long distances to corrals and in this way more feed is tramped out than is eaten.

I should like to see all our western Congressmen urged to try to get a bill, providing for a national bounty, through Congress. The cost would only be a trifle compared to the millions that are being wasted for other far less important things.

So won't you join me in declaring war on the pesky coyotes. Of course, the cats and eagles take a toll, but I give the coyote most of the credit for all our loss.

Kimberly, Oregon Chas. V. Bales

Around the Range Country

(Continued from page 24)

Coyotes are less troublesome than they were a year ago, as local trappers have caught a good many the past winter.

Roy J. Baker

Kimberly

April has brought us good weather, and conditions are far better than for several years past. Our losses during the past winter were below average, but we have had more dry ewes in our lambing bands than for many years.

There have been no transactions in 1937 lambs and no wool has been sold. The wool is much cleaner and longer than usual. The shearing rate is 12½ cents with board.

Higher wages and charges for supplies will run our production costs up this year.

No one seems to be fighting the coyotes and they are increasing fast.

Chas. V. Bales

Beulah

The weather is cold and windy (April 25); grass short, and as a whole the season is very backward. Up to the present, the lamb count is somewhat below the number saved at the same time in 1936. A normal winter loss is reported for this section.

Shearing will commence about the middle of May, but I do not know what the cost will be. Wools on the coarse order are being contracted at 33 to 37½ cents a pound.

Regulation of grazing on the public domain seems to be moving along very satisfactorily for the home owners, but there is a big kick from the tramp sheepmen.

I do not know of any reduction in numbers of sheep permitted on the national forests this year.

W. J. Altnow



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Ontario

The weather is very cold (April 22) and the grass is slow in coming but it looks good, and with our greater supply of moisture, the prospects are better than they were last year for good grass later on.

Lambing results so far are about on a par with last year's. There does not seem to be any activity in signing up lambs, either fat lambs or feeders, for future delivery. Recent wool contracts have been made as high as 37 cents on half and quarter-blood wools shrinking from 55 to 67 per cent.

Grain, range, general supplies and labor costs are higher this year.

The work of the Taylor grazing district board is satisfactory in this section. No cuts have been made in forest allotments.

Jesse B. Adrian

Westfall

It is windy and cold here now (May 2) and we are a little short on moisture. On the whole weather and feed conditions are about average.

This year's lambing is about 10 per cent below average, while winter losses were about normal. I haven't heard of any transactions in new-crop lambs.

Up to 35 cents has been paid recently for wools, but I do not know what the shrinkage on such clips is. Shearing rates are 12½ cents per head with board.

I estimate that production costs this year will exceed those of 1936 by 20 per cent.

Regulation of grazing under the Taylor Act seems to be working out satisfactorily to the men with a rounded-out set-up. So far as I know there have been no reductions in forest allotments this year.

J. R. Arrien

CALIFORNIA

Temperatures were normal, or somewhat above, excepting in the last week, which was abnormally cool. Rains were light to moderate, as a rule. Drying winds occurred in some interior valleys. However, pastures and ranges

are excellent in the south, and fair to good over most of the rest of the state; but they are still poor in the extreme north. Livestock are in good condition everywhere, except in the extreme northern portion.

Fresno

I enjoy reading "Around the Range Country," and think it is worth while.

The lambs around here have all been shipped. They were sold from 9 to 11 cents per pound. This year's wool clip, a very good one, was sold from 25 to 40 cents a pound. Ewes are looking good also (May 1).

P. Harriet

Delano

We have had a good season in this vicinity. Nearly all the lambs will be sent to market by the last of this month. Foxtail is getting ripe fast, which rushes some of the lambs to market.

We value the National Wool Grower very highly and would not ranch without it.

E. G. Blair

Loyalton

There is less feed now (April 26) than for two years past and conditions generally are bad, due to the extremely cold weather we are having. The death toll this winter was heavier than in the past fifteen years.

Some Merino wools have been contracted at 33 cents lately. I do not shear until May so I am not posted on shearing rates. I do know, however, that, due to higher wages and higher prices for all our supplies, the 1937 lamb and wool crops are costing up more to produce than in 1936.

The district advisory boards are doing good work in California, but seem to be very slow in functioning in Nevada.

Coyotes are more numerous than ever; not a single night throughout lambing that there weren't some lambs killed.

W. H. Guscetti

Pittsburg

It is dry here now (April 26), but feed is plentiful although starting to dry out. On the whole I think April weather and feed conditions are better this year than last, although there was more clover a year ago. Our losses were much greater this year than is usual and considerably fewer lambs were saved than last year. About 95 per cent of our crop has been sold at 10 cents.

Shearing is costing us 16½ cents. This does not include board for the shearer and we do our own wrangling and sacking. Production costs all the way around will be higher this year than last.

For the first time in ten years coyotes have put in an appearance in this section this year.

R. Bode

NEVADA

Temperatures averaged near or somewhat below normal, and vegetation was making a satisfactory showing in all sections at the lower and intermediate levels. Precipitation was fairly general, but was comparatively light; consequently a little more moisture would be helpful in most sections. Spring ranges are being used to a certain extent; livestock have been on feed for two or three months, and are consequently in good shape.

UTAH

Temperatures averaged well below normal, because of a number of cold spells of several days' duration, though a few abnormally warm days promoted vegetation growth temporarily. The growing season is two or three weeks late, and forage is still scarce, though most livestock have been turned out and are doing fairly well. Rains and snows occurred occasionally over the western counties, but amounts of precipitation were small, and much of the state needs rain. Shearing was beginning in places, and no losses of sheep have resulted.

Spring City

The weather is bad and the range poor (April 22), but conditions probably not any worse than they have been the past year or two during April. I believe winter losses were somewhat greater than in 1936.

Medium grade wool (do not know the shrink) has been contracted here within recent weeks at 30 to 33 cents. No shearing has been done yet.

In lambing done so far, the number of lambs saved per hundred ewes is a little above that of last year. Haven't heard of any transactions in this year's crop of lambs.

I cannot make a general statement about production costs, but I know it is costing our outfit more to produce the 1937 lambs and wool than the previous year's.

Generally, the work of the advisory boards of the Taylor grazing districts has been fair, but there is still need for some adjustments on trails and other matters. No cuts have been made in forest allotments for this year.

Coyotes are increasing.

Henry Acord

COLORADO

Soil conditions nearly everywhere are good, as moisture has been plentiful. Seasonal temperatures have prevailed in the east, but farther west, the growing season is backward. During the last week the need for moisture was reported in some southeastern counties, where high winds prevailed. Pastures and ranges are making a good start in the eastern plains area. Cattle and sheep are mostly doing well, though cold snowy weather on the western slope was detrimental to lambing and shearing.

Pagosa Springs

With cold weather and slow feed (May 1) conditions are below those prevailing at this time last year. Winter losses were about 5 per cent heavier and the lamb crop 5 per cent short,

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For History of the Breed, List of Members,
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compared to last year. Our lamb crop this year is about an 85 per cent one. No bids have been made yet for any lambs.

I'd like to see something done about the coyotes; they are more troublesome than ever.

The advisory board for the local grazing district is doing all right so far, in my opinion, although some applications were reduced.

There have been some cuts in forest allotments for the year to protect overgrazed areas.

I think the National Wool Growers Association has helped the sheep industry in every way it could.

Porfirio Martinez

Dolores

We had the wettest March for years and grass is slow (April 1), but should be good. There has been plenty of roughage, so stock will come through in good shape, although there has been a considerable shrinkage. Normal winter losses are reported.

Montrose

It is very cold here (April 24) and conditions are not at all good, much worse than for two or three years past at this season. Reports indicate that the winter death loss was normal, however, and in lambing done so far, the number saved per hundred ewes is 15 per cent better than it was last year.

There is some talk of 8½ cents for the feeder end of the crop this year, but no deals have been made that I know of. Wools, mostly quarter bloods shrinking from 63 to 68 per cent, are being contracted at 32 to 36¼ cents. For contract shearing the rate is 15¼ cents per head, with the contractor furnishing everything except the sacks and twine.

In my opinion the grazing boards will never function successfully, as there are too many personal issues involved.

The only cuts in sheep in forest permits have been those made where an outfit was sold, in which case a 20 per cent reduction was made.

In some sections coyotes are increasing, but in areas where the Biological Survey has worked there are fewer of them.

Frank Meeker.

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PHONE 174

Colorado Springs

The ranges are not yet open (April 26), but conditions are about as in other recent years. The season's losses are greater than normal.

Eight cents is taking the feeders in some of the 1937 lamb crops, but I have not heard of any deals on fat lambs. So far the lambing yield is less in most flocks than it was last year.

From 30 to 32 cents is the range of prices in recent contracts on fine wool with a shrinkage of from 65 to 68 per cent. The shearing rate for this season is 13 cents per head without board. Costs of both labor and supplies are up this year.

I do not graze on the public domain, but understand from others that the work of the advisory boards is not satisfactory. A particular complaint is that they were too late in letting it be known how many sheep can be grazed.

Henry Meinholtz

NEW MEXICO

Subnormal temperatures prevailed, and there is need for additional moisture over a considerable area. Spring forage is making a slow growth nearly everywhere. Eastern counties are appreciably driest, and need rain most; dust storms and sand storms occurred in this area frequently. Livestock wintered fairly well, and are now in fair to good condition.

Chacon

Better weather and feed conditions prevail here (April 26) than for several years past. We have lost more sheep than usual during the winter, however.

From 28 to 30 cents is being paid for wools. Lambing has not started yet and no offers have been made for either fat or feeder lambs.

Domingo Vasquez

Clayton

It's as dry as dust here (April 23) and conditions are not too good, but probably not any worse than in re-

cent past years. The lamb crop is about a 95 per cent one as against 90 per cent last year and 95 per cent in 1935. A small clip of wool, shrinking around 64 to 66 per cent, has recently sold at 25 cents a pound. Production costs are up about 20 per cent in comparison with what they were a year ago.

When pelts are worth from \$5 to \$7, the hunters and trappers get a good catch of coyotes, but otherwise not much is done to curtail their increase.

R. K. Wooten

ARIZONA

Abnormally cool weather occurred in the first and last weeks, but much warmer weather in the middle of the month promoted a rapid growth of forage nearly everywhere. Additional moisture would be beneficial however, in nearly all parts of the state. Alfalfa hay cutting began about the middle of the month on comparatively good crops. Livestock have held up in satisfactory condition.

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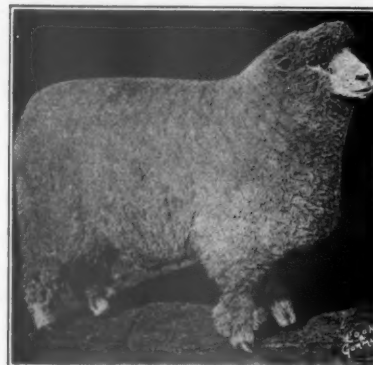
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Champion Corriedale Ram at the 1936 Chicago International.

Thatcher

There is plenty of feed (April 23), but it is not as good as usual. The lamb yields are a little better than last year's and winter losses have been light.

We consign our wool to the National Wool Marketing Corporation and I do not know of any recent transactions in wool. No lamb contracting is being done.

Some are satisfied and others not satisfied with the way the local advisory boards are handling the problems of the grazing districts. Personally, I do not think the boards have enough authority, especially in regard to fixing the carrying capacity of the range.

The work of a government trapper has helped a lot in reducing coyotes in this section.

Marion Lee

WESTERN TEXAS

Warm, clear weather prevailed over the Panhandle section, with only two or three light rains, bringing about 21 per cent of normal precipitation. Abnormally droughty soil conditions thus prevail in some localities. Better moisture conditions were reported from middle counties, and in some southern areas. Livestock are mostly in good condition, though some are not doing so well in northern counties.

Sanderson

The first two weeks of April found this section of the country dry. Then, two rains at intervals of a week covered a rather large area, being generally light, but sufficient in some parts to be of considerable help. Generally speaking, there is a little green feed, and the livestock, which are mainly sheep, are doing surprisingly well.

All told, this is not quite so good a spring as last year's, but far better than the two preceding ones. Speaking within the writer's limited personal knowledge, the death loss during the past winter for this locality has been practically nil. This is a high, cool area, remarkably free from di-

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sease, and coyotes are rare visitors here. It is quite a distance to open country, where they can run and breed freely; so, with the help of net wire fences, vigilant ranchmen, and a few good trappers, they very seldom get this far into the sheep country.

The lambs are nearly all marked up. This year's crop is not quite so heavy as last year's but, even at that, unusually large. A hundred per cent or over is commonly reported. This ranch produced 110 per cent from the grown ewes actually counted, and 85 per cent from the ewes in their first lambing (two years old this spring). However, observation and report indicate a later and markedly lighter lambing farther north.

Apparently, numerous offers are being made to contract lambs for fall delivery, but no sales made. Ten cents seems to be the holding price.

The wool-house reports numerous wool buyers in the last few days, looking for spot wools, but no sales were made. Neither are there any recent contracts reported in this vicinity. However, over West Texas there are some recent sales reported at 40½ cents.

There are no Taylor Grazing Board, nor Forest permit problems here, for the State of Texas owns all the public domain within her borders.

H. C. Goldwire.

Sabinal

Weather and feed conditions are excellent locally (April 30), but not generally. At that they are better than at this season in recent years. We have the best lamb crop in several years and not much of a toll was taken on the sheep during the winter. Production costs will be higher this year, however.

Have had an unusually large number of coyotes this year.

P. F. Fitzgerald